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ART. I. *Political divisions of the Chinese empire: "Map of China and the adjacent countries, drawn from the latest surveys and other authentic documents."* Parbury, Allen, & Co. London, 1833.

WE have seen somewhere an account of a sagacious elephant, that was required by his master to move out of its place a boat, which had just been built upon the shore, and lay with its keel imbedded in the sand. The animal first applied his foot to the keel, and, finding that to move it in its then condition was beyond his power, looked up to his master and refused to put forth his strength. The master then commanded him to try what effect a push with his head would have; but still the elephant refused to exert himself. No sooner, however, had a quantity of sand been removed from the other end of the boat, than the animal immediately did what was required of him. This boat, if it is allowable to compare great things with small, may be regarded as a not unfit emblem of China, which now lies imbedded in ignorance and mental degradation. Until the impediments which these present to its progress have been in a great degree removed, we may in vain look for the advance of this unwieldy nation along the stream of civilization and improvement. One, and but one, other chance of altering its present condition remains. Let us suppose, that when the elephant found himself incapable of moving the vessel, the object had been given up, and the boat had been forsaken. There it would have remained, until a storm coming on, the sea would have returned and driven it from its position, carrying it away, without rudder, compass, or sails, upon the face of the mighty deep. And such may, nay *must*, be the fate of China, if its present state should fail to excite the attention, and the benevolent and wisely directed exertions, of those who, having enjoyed greater advantages, are already prepared to encounter and ride out the storms to which they may be exposed.

Such are the thoughts which naturally arose in our minds, as we glanced our eyes over the sheet on which is sketched the outline, necessarily imperfect, of a portion (though the largest and most important part, yet but *a portion)* of this extensive empire,—as we traced its varied surface, here rising into lofty mountains, there sinking into fertile plains, and everywhere copiously watered by majestic rivers, placid lakes, or gently flowing streamlets; and as, turning from the pictorial sheet to the reality, we saw the teeming and industrious population, laboriously pursuing their varied occupations, yet frequently suffering from the extremity of want or oppression; while the consideration of their ignorance and debasement, their almost total destitution of truth and honest principles, and their hopeless condition in respect of all future prospects, involuntarily forced itself upon our recollection. Nor can we disconnect from the contemplation of the vast extent, and almost inexhaustible resources, of this great empire, such thoughts regarding its moral and political condition.

Of the map itself which has given rise to these reflections we have but little to say. The Chinese, possessing no knowledge of science beyond its most simple rudiments, had hardly any acquaintance with the topography even of their own country, until Catholic missionaries visited them in the 17th century, and were employed under the enlightened reign of Kanghe, to survey the whole empire, and draw maps of the several provinces. This task was very ably performed; and it is to the zeal with which they executed it, that we are indebted for being so well able to fill up our maps of this country, while those of countries much more frequently visited by Europeans still consist of large blanks, sparingly embellished with a few celebrated names. But here the advantages that we enjoy with regard to a knowledge of Chinese geography end, if we except some valuable additions that have been made to our acquaintance with the coast, chiefly by the surveys of Ross and Maughan, under the patronage of the honorable East India company, and also by the visits of two British embassies to the northern provinces of China, by the observations of officers in the company's service in the neighborhood of Canton, and lastly by the expeditions of the Lord Amherst and other vessels to the eastern and northern ports. Not a single addition of importance has, we believe, been made to our knowledge of the *interior* of the country; and the maps of D'Anville, and the topographical summaries of Du Halde, continue to be our best authorities in all that relates to the internal geography of China.

Now if we consider the rapid advances that have been made in the arts and sciences, during the century that has elapsed since these works were published, as well as the great danger that exists of multiplied errors creeping into a series of successive copies, not merely out of one work into another, but also out of different languages; and if on the other hand we call to mind, that while the moral and political condition of China has undergone no perceptible change, her artificial divisions and extent, and the numbers of her native in-

habitants and tributaries have nevertheless been subject to various and manifold alterations; we shall find abundant reason for desiring to see a "Map of China" drawn from sources and documents more ample than the "late surveys" upon the coast, and more valuable than the "authentic documents,"—journals we presume of some of those recent expeditions to the eastern and northern ports, —upon which alone rests every pretension to novelty that the map before us can put forth.

Let us not however be misunderstood. Far be it from us to blame the publishers for having given us what they had—a map copied after the only originals that they possessed, and including all the corrections that they were able to obtain. But for this we blame them, that they have given us, under the name of a "Map of China and the adjacent countries," a map merely of that *part* of China commonly, though, as we have formerly shown, somewhat erroneously, called *China Proper*, accompanied with a bare outline of the Corean and Japanese kingdoms, to the entire exclusion of those extensive portions of the empire, the three provinces of Mantchouria, the wide spread colonial possessions in Mongolia, Soungaria, Turkestan, and of Tibet. We also blame ourselves, in common with all whose attention has been turned towards China, for having so much neglected to use our exertions for obtaining, and diffusing, a better knowledge of its geography. And above all, we blame the Chinese for having profited so little by the instructions of the Catholic missionaries, as to afford us hardly any means of extending the knowledge that we have derived from their publications. Until other and abler persons will undertake the task of supplying our deficiencies in this respect, we feel called upon ourselves to use our best endeavors to atone for past negligence.

In a former volume (I. p. 36), wherein we have sketched the extent, boundaries, and characteristics, of the Mantchou-Chinese empire, we have also mentioned some changes that have taken place in the limits of the provinces of Szechuen and Kansuh, increasing the extent of 'China Proper' in those directions. We have at the same time shown that these changes are not unimportant, inasmuch as they affect the nature of the government exercised in those districts to which they relate; the Chinese governments that exist beyond their limits being altogether of a military character, while within the 'eighteen provinces,' in which the Chinese language prevails, they have more of a civil character, intermixed however, as was mentioned in the second article of our last number, with some degree of military despotism. We will now proceed to detail, more minutely than we have yet done, the political divisions of the empire; and in future numbers we propose to lay before our readers such particulars as we can collect respecting the several divisions separately.

All the possessions of the empire may be classed under three principal divisions, viz: 1. China Proper, or the empire as it existed previous to the Mantchou conquest in 1644, but with a few additions

of minor importance. 2. Mantchou or Mantchouria, the native country of the reigning dynasty. 3. The colonial possessions of Mongolia, Soungaria, East Turkestan, and of Tibet.

China Proper, the first, is in all respects, the most important of these three divisions. It is distinguished in Chinese geography by the denomination of *sheih-pa săng*, the 'eighteen provinces,' denoting the number of its grand divisions, which have been increased since the accession of the present dynasty (the number having formerly been fifteen), not so much by additions of territory as by the subdivision of some provinces which were before disproportionate in extent. The eighteen provinces have been incorporated into eleven governments, which are usually arranged in the following order.

Northern governments.

1. Cheihle, a single province, under a governor *(tsungtuh)*.
2. Shantung, a single province, under a lieut.-governor *(fooyuen or seunfoo)*.
3. Shanse, a single province, under a lieut.-governor.
4. Honan, a single province, under a lieut.-governor.

Eastern governments.

5. Leäng Keäng, under a governor; this government includes three provinces, Keängsoo, Nganhwuy, and Keängse, each under a lieut.-governor.
6. Min Chĕ, under a governor; this government includes two provinces, Fuhkeen and Chĕkeäng, each under a lieut.-governor.

Midland government.

7. Hoo Kwang, under a governor; this was formerly one province, but is now divided into two, Hoopih and Hoonan, each of which is subject to a lieut.-governor.

Western governments.

8. Shen Kan, under a governor; this government includes the provinces of Shense and Kansuh; the former is subject to a lieut.-governor, in the latter the duties of that office are performed by the governor.
9. Szechuen, a single province, and subject to a governor.

Southern governments.

10. Leäng Kwang, under a governor; it includes two provinces, Kwangtung and Kwangse, each subject to a lieut.-governor.
11. Yun Kwei, under a governor; it also includes two provinces, Yunnan and Kweichow, each subject to a lieut.-governor.

It should be observed, that the governments of the united provinces are wholly distinct from each other, except in common subordination to one governor, and in a few other occasional and immaterial points. The names of places are seldom altogether arbitrary; however the lapse of years may, by gradual corruptions or by the changes of language, have disguised their original significations. This is more particularly the case with respect to the names of the

larger divisions of countries into provinces, in which the ancient designations are usually retained, than with respect to the more modern and smaller divisions of districts and townships. The language of China having been so little altered by the invasions of foreigners, the meanings of names are preserved here, it is probable, in a much greater number of instances than in any other ancient country. To assist the memory, therefore, in retaining sounds which to the untaught ear must appear barbarous and unmeaning, we subjoin here the significations of the names of provinces above given.—Cheihle denotes the province from which the supreme power emanates, and under the 'direct rule' of which all the rest of the empire is placed. The word *pih*, north, was formerly prefixed to distinguish it from the province of Keängnan, in which the seat of government had sometimes been; and hence it is that we meet in the books and maps of the Catholic missionaries with the name Petchelec (Pih Cheihle). Shantung signifies 'east,' and Shanse, 'west, of the hills,' viz. of a branch of the northwestern mountainous range, running up between Shanse and Cheihle.* The name of Honan denotes its position, 'south of the (Yellow) river.' The government of Leäng Keäng, 'the two Keängs,' obtained its name previous to the subdivision of Keängnan, when that province and Keängse formed the two parts of the government: Keängnan denotes 'south,' and Keängse 'west, of the river,' the Yängtsze keäng: a cursory glance at the map will suffice to show that the boundaries of these two provinces have very greatly altered since these names were first given to them. Keängsoo and Nganhwuy, the modern subdivisions of Keängnan, derive their names from three of the principal cities which are comprised within their borders, viz., Keängning or (Nanking) the 'tranquil city on the river' Yängtsze keäng, and Soochow, 'the blissful region,' which two give name to Keängsoo; and the 'peaceful Hwuychow, or region of excellence,' which gives its name to Nganhwuy. The government of Min Chĕ is named from its two parts, the province of the river Min (more commonly called Fuhkeĕn, 'the happy settled region,' a name indicative of the difficulty with which it has been brought into subjection), and Chĕkeäng, the province of 'the river Chĕ.' Hoo Kwang, 'the broad region of the lakes,' comprises the provinces of Hoopih, 'north,' and Hoonan, 'south, of the lakes.' Shen Kan is named, like most of the other united governments, from its two parts, Shense, 'the western defiles,' and Kansuh, 'the voluntarily reverential' (being a modern offset from Shense, which has been, since its disunion, greatly increased by the annexation of submitted tribes). Szechuen denotes literally the 'four streams,' but the name is, we believe, intended to refer to four tribes of mountaineers called Kinchuen, who were at great expense and trouble subdued by the emperor Keënlung. The government of Leäng Kwang 'the two wide spreading' provinces, comprises the 'eastern' and the 'western, broad provinces,' Kwangtung and Kwang-

* See the brief remarks as to the chief mountainous characteristics of the country, in our first volume, page 41.

se. Lastly, Yunnan, 'the cloudy south,' and Kweichow, 'the noble region,' form the government of Yun Kwei, so designated from the initial syllables of the two names.

Of the above provinces, Keängsoo and Nganhwny were formerly united under the name of Keängnan; Hoopih and Hoonan were together denominated Hookwang; and Kansuh formed part of the province of Shense. These have been separated under the present dynasty; while on the other hand, additions have been made to the extent of some;—to Cheihle and Shanse, by the annexation of small portions of Inner Mongolia; to Fuhkeën, of the western half of the island of Formosa; to Kansuh, of territory beyond the desert of Cobi, bordering on Soungaria, and of the sources of the Yellow river on the borders of Tibet; and to Szechuen, of some barbarous tribes which formerly separated it from Tibet, with which country it is now conterminous on its western frontier.

The eighteen provinces are divided into *foo*, *ting*, *chow*, and *heën*. A *foo* is a large portion or department of a province, under the general control of one civil officer immediately subordinate to the heads of the provincial government. A *ting* is a division of a province smaller than a foo, and either like it governed by an officer immediately subject to the heads of the provincial government, or else forming a subordinate part of a foo. In the former case it is called *cheih le*, under the 'direct rule' of the provincial government; in the latter case it is simply called ting. A *chow* is a division similar to a ting, and like it either independent of any other division, or forming part of a foo. The difference between the two consists in the government of a ting resembling that of a foo more nearly than that of a chow does: that of the chow is a less expensive form of government. The ting and chow of the class to which the term *cheih le* is attached, we may denominate, in common with the foo, *departments*; and the term cheih le we may render by the word *independent*. The subordinate ting and chow may be called *districts*. A *heën*, which we may also call a *district*, is a small division or subordinate part of a department, whether of a foo, or of an independent chow or ting.

Each foo, ting, chow, and heën, possesses at least one walled town, the seat of its government, which bears the same name as the department or district to which it pertains. Thus Heängshan is the chief town of the district Heängshan heën; and Shaouking, that of the department Shaouking foo. By European writers, the chief towns of the foo or departments have been called cities of the first order; those of the chow, cities of the second order; and those of the heën, cities of the third order. The division called ting, being more rarely met with, has been left out of the arrangement—an arrangement not recognized in China. It must be observed that the chief town of a foo is always also the chief town of a heën district; and sometimes, when of considerable size and importance, it and the country around are divided into two heën districts, both of which have the seat of their government within the same walls: but this is not the case with the *ting* and *chow*

departments. A district is not always subdivided; instances may occur of a whole district possessing but one important town. But as there are often large, and even walled towns not included in the number of chief or of district towns, consequently not the seat of a *regular* chow or heën magistracy, a subdivision of a district is therefore frequently rendered necessary; and for the better government of such towns and the country surrounding them, magistrates are appointed to them, secondary to the magistrates of the departments or the districts in which they are comprised. Thus Fuhshan is a very large commercial town in the district of Nanhae, of the department of Kwangchow, situated about twelve miles distant from Canton. The chief officer of the department has therefore an assistant residing there, and the town is partly under his government, and partly under that of the Nanhae magistrate, within whose district it is included, but who resides at Canton. Macao affords another instance: being a place of some importance, both from its size, and as the residence of foreigners, an assistant to the heën magistrate is placed over it, and it is also under the control of an assistant to the chief magistrate of the foo. Of these assistant magistrates, there are two ranks secondary to the chief magistrate of a foo, two secondary to the magistrate of a chow, and two also secondary to the magistrate of a heën. The places under the rule of these assistant magistrates are called by various names, most frequently *chin* and *so*, and sometimes also *chae* and *wei*. These names do not appear to have reference to any particular form of municipal government existing in them; but the chae and the wei are often military posts; and sometimes a place is with respect to its civil government the chief city of a foo, while with respect to its military position it is called *wei*. There are other towns of still smaller importance; these are under the government of inferior magistrates who are called *seun keën:* a division of country under such a magistrate is called a *sze*. The town of Whampoa and country around it form one such division, called Keaoutang sze, belonging to the district of Pwanyu, in the department of Kwangchow.

In the mountainous districts of Kwangse, Yunnan, Kweichow, and Szechuen, and in some other places, there are districts called *too sze*. Among these, the same distinctions of foo, chow, and heën exist, together with the minor division sze. The magistrates of these departments and districts are hereditary in their succession.

There is a larger division than any of the above, but as it does not prevail universally we have not mentioned it in the first instance. It is called *taou*, 'course,' or as we may more intelligibly render it, *circuit*, and comprises two or more departments of a province, whether foo, or independent ting or chow. These circuits are subject to the government of officers who often combine with political and judicial powers a military authority, and various duties relating to the territory or to the revenue. To illustrate these, as well as the other terms, we will take the province of Kwangtung or Canton, the divisions of which are the following:

First circuit. The officer at the head of this circuit possesses certain political and judicial powers, united with military authority and the direction of the water ways; his authority extends over five departments, viz:

Kwangchow foo, comprising 14 heën.
Leën chow, an independent chow, comprising 2 heen.
Leyaou ting, an independent ting, having no subordinate districts.
Shaouchow foo, comprising 6 heën.
Nanheung chow, an independent chow, comprising 1 heën.

Second circuit. The officer at the head of it possesses political and judicial authority, combined with military powers; he governs four departments, viz:

Hwuychow foo, comprising 1 chow and 9 heën.
Fuhkang ting, an independent ting.
Chaouchow foo, comprising 1 ting and 9 heën.
Keäying chow, an independent chow, comprising 4 heën.

Third circuit. The officer at the head of it possesses civil authority, without military powers, over 2 departments, viz:

Shaouking foo, comprising 1 chow and 12 heën.
Loting chow, an independent chow, comprising 2 heën.

Fourth circuit. The officer of this circuit has civil and military authority over two departments, viz:

Kaouchow foo, comprising 1 chow and 5 heën.
Leënchow foo, comprising 1 chow and 2 heën.

Fifth circuit. The officer of this circuit possesses civil authority, combined with military power, over two departments, viz:

Luychow foo, comprising 3 heën.
Keungchow foo, comprising 3 chow and 10 heën.

From these details, it appears that the whole province is divided into 5 circuits, comprising 15 departments; viz: 9 foo, 2 ting of the class called independent, and 4 chow of the same class; and that these departments are subdivided into 88 districts, viz., 2 ting and 7 chow of the subordinate class, and 79 heën. To the number of these, we must add the two independent ting, which are not subdivided; and also the four independent chow, which although subdivided into heën districts, yet have also a portion of their territory not under the government of heën magistrates, but directly subject to the higher magistracy of the chow. Thus Nanheung chow, though having but one heën dependent on it, yet consists of two districts, one that of the heën, and the other a district surrounding the seat of the chow magistracy, and directly subject to it, without the intervention of a heën magistrate. The total number of districts is therefore (88 and 6) 94. But we must observe that the two ting not independent, being of very small extent, and with hardly any municipal peculiarities, are often popularly regarded as parts of the much larger heën districts by whose territories they are surrounded; this however is not in point of fact the case.

With respect to the division into circuits, we must remember, however, that it does not prevail throughout the country, there being in most of the provinces, some departments not included in any circuit. The officers of the circuits have control sometimes over the collection of duties on silks, teas, &c., and over the preparation of salt and other articles of governmental monopoly.

Mantchouria contains three provinces, Shingking or Moukden, Kirin, and Tsitsihar. The Chinese system of government has been in part extended to the first; and it is therefore divided into foo, chow, ting, and heën, but it has also a military government; the other two provinces are entirely under military control. The heads of the military governments are tseängkeun, generals; subordinate to whom are foo-tootung, lieut.-generals; tsungkwan, overseers; showwei, commandants; and heëling, assistant commanders. All military towns without distinction of size are called *ching*, with the exception, however, of a few towns in Kirin which are called *ting*. Each of the three Mantchou provinces has a tseängkeun and subordinate officers. The tseängkeun and subordinate officers exist also in some of the provinces of China; but there their authority is only over the military, and they cannot interfere in the direction of civil affairs; while in the Mantchou provinces the entire government is in their hands, except in the province of Shingking. The power also of the tseängkeun in a province of China Proper is for the most part confined to single important cities. The place of their residence, which is generally a chief city of a foo or department, they denominate *ching*. In an unrestricted sense all walled towns are called *ching*. Attached to each of the military cities of Mantchouria is a portion of territory, sometimes very extensive, under the government of the military officer who resides in the city. There are no minor subdivisions of this territory, which maintains but a small population.

The Chinese *colonies*, Mongolia, Soungaria, Eastern Turkestan or Little Bukharia, and Tibet, must each be spoken of separately.

Mongolia, the habitation of nomad tribes, averse to agriculture and commerce, possesses few large collections of houses. Small portions of it bordering on China Proper, having been peopled from thence, are now included under the government of its northern provinces. The rest is divided among various tribes, each under the rule of its respective hereditary prince. The numerical power, and consequently the territorial extent, of these several tribes are quite various; some forming only small baronies, while others constitute extensive principalities, which formerly existed as distinct and powerful nations. The few Chinese authorities that reside in Mongolia are military, and the places of their residence are denominated *ching*. The principal divisions of Mongolia are four: 1. Inner or Southern Mongolia, between the desert of Cobi and the great wall; 2. Outer Mongolia, on the north of Cobi; 3. The territory around the Kokonor, on the west of China and northwest of Tibet; and 4. Ouhasoutai, west of Outer Mongolia, on the Russian frontier.—Inner

Mongolia comprises 24 *aimak* or tribes, arranged under six *chulkan* or corps; the tribes are divided into standards of about 2000 families each; and each tribe comprises from one to six or seven standards. Outer Mongolia consists of four *loo* or provinces; the number of standards included in which is eighty-seven. In the country around the Kokonor are various tribes similarly divided into standards; the territory which they occupy forms one province under the government of a *tseängkeun*, and attached to the province of Kansuh. Of Ouliasontai, the fourth division of Mongolia, lying on the west of the Kalkas, the population is scattered, and the government is therefore entirely military; the only recognizable division of the country is into the two provinces Kobdo and Tangnoo Oulianghai. Both tribes are entirely composed of mountain nomads, and are under a tseängkeun, at the head of an army of observation on the Russian frontier. Great care is taken with all the Mongol tribes to prevent any of them encroaching on the territory of another; but within their own territories, they seldom rest long in one place.

Ele forms one government, comprising two provinces, *Soungaria* and *Turkestan*. At the eastern extremity of each province are some districts, formerly Mongolian, which have received the Chinese form of municipal government, and been incorporated in the province of Kansuh; but a concurrent military jurisdiction, subordinate to the head government at Ele, is also exercised therein. In the rest of the two provinces, the government is entirely military; at the head of it is a tseängkeun residing at Ele; and subordinate to him are other military officers, and also civil residents with military authority. Their residences are called *ching;* the principal ching or cities, have surrounding cantons or districts, sometimes including several ching. There are three cantons in the northern province of Soungaria; and eight in the southern province of Turkestan.

Tibet is divided into two provinces; the eastern province is called Tseën Tsang, Anterior Tibet; and the western How Tsang, Ulterior Tibet. Each of these provinces was formerly subdivided into two parts; but they are now divided into cantons, Anterior Tibet containing eight, and Ulterior Tibet, seven cantons. They are under the government of two lamas whose measures are subject to the approval of two Chinese ministers. Little beyond this general description of the country is at present known.

We have thus roughly traced the several parts of this vast empire; in the system of political arrangement there are doubtless many things to admire; the machinery is good, but an exposure of the practical operation of the government for which this machinery has been arranged would display multiplied and glaring faults. It is, however, foreign to our present subject to enter on a consideration of these faults, and we must defer withdrawing the veil from them until a future period.

ART. II. *Notices of Modern China: duties and career of the great officers of state; Tŏtsin, Sung, Hengăn, Na Yewching, Changling, Le Heungpun, &c.*

THE duties of the officers of government, as indicated in the penal code, are so minute and often so contradictory, as to make it almost impossible to fulfill them strictly; we find accordingly, that few or none have ascended the slippery heights of promotion without frequent relapses. Degradation, when to a step or two lower only, and temporary, carries with it of course, no moral taint in a country where the punishment awarded for bribery is graduated according to the amount of bribe received,* without any reference to moral violation; where the bamboo is the standard punishment as well for error in judgment or remissness, as for crime,† only commuted to a fine in honor of official rank; where, as a distinction in favor of the imperial race, the bamboo is softened to the whip, and banishment mitigated to the pillory.‡

Our materials furnish few cases, as might be expected, of great enormity amongst the highest class of officers, to which the inquiry is at present limited. One case will suffice to show that they may continue to oppress for a long time before their misrule attracts the emperor's notice. Chang, one of the conductors of lord Amherst's embassy was banished to Tartary about the year 1818,‖ probably for incapacity and bad government in the situation which he held of judge of Shantung,§ which we are told is the second judgeship in importance in the empire.¶ His successor shared the same fate in 1820, charged with suppressing upwards of 1000 cases in his court; with having imprisoned and implicated in prosecutions, upwards of 1300 innocent people; and finally with having employed a convicted criminal with forty people under him, in the police, who distressed the guiltless by extortion and other injustice. Several instances will be mentioned hereafter of punishment of officers of the highest rank for occasioning or failing to put down insurrections; and a long catalogue of atrocities will be recorded of the lower officers and police, when they are noticed more fully. A great amount of malversation must necessarily be found in the lower departments of the government, and in this, as in all countries, especially in Asia, the weaker are often, no doubt, made to suffer for the misdemeanors of their superiors; but it is peculiar to China perhaps to acknowledge the latter principle, and incorporate it into their code. "In all cases of officers of government," according to section 28, "associated in one department or tribunal, and committing offenses against the laws as a public body, by false or erroneous decisions and investigations,

* Staunton's Penal Code, sec. 341.
† Penal Code, sec. 8.
‡ Penal Code, sec. 7.
‖ Ind. Gleaner, Oct. 1818, p. 182.
§ Ind. Gleaner, April, 1820, p. 300.
¶ Ellis' Embassy, vol. 1. p. 320, 2d ed.

the *clerk* of the department or tribunal shall be punished as the *principal offender;* the punishment of the several deputies or executive officers, shall be less by one degree, that of the assessors less by another degree, and that of the *presiding magistrate* less by a third degree." We find the same principle again in sections 52 and 419.

The foregoing principle is seemingly incompatible with section 40 which declares, "all officers of government are considered by law to be responsible superintendents of such charges and departments of affairs and public justice as may be placed under their authority and control," which is nearly rendered impracticable again by the 48th section, which takes from the superintending official the power of nominating his juniors for whom he is to be responsible. These contradictory precepts render it easy to select any one member of a tribunal as may be safest and most suitable with the prevailing interests, whenever it is necessary to make an example as a check upon malversation.

The above principle is stretched to its utmost bearings, as will be frequently shown, but nowhere more than in the constitution of the security merchants and linguists, who act as police over the foreigners in Canton, and who are daily made responsible not only for the negligences or connivances of their superiors, but also for occurrences which they could not possibly foresee or control. It is to be remarked too with respect to the foreigners, that in the public edicts respecting them, they are rarely or never threatened with the penalty of the law, and never made actually amenable for smuggling or other infractions; but always some one or other of the governmental officers. "I have omitted," says Mr. Lindsay, in the report of his voyage,* "to mention that on the morning of the 10th, we heard that official orders had been received from the tsungtuh (governor of Fuhkeen), announcing the degradation and dismissal of Chin tajin, vice-admiral of Minngan, and two other naval officers on account of the entrance of the Lord Amherst; and that a successor had been appointed to Chin in the person of Lin talaouyay, who had filled the inferior office of tsantseäng at Amoy, and was one of the officers assembled to give us audience there. This circumstance in itself is very expressive, and it is difficult to feel much respect for a government which, seeing itself powerless to enforce its orders on a small merchant vessel, feels itself compelled to throw the blame of its own weakness on, and endeavor to support its credit with the public by the punishment of, its subordinate officers."

Whilst the inferior classes of officers are saddled with the blame of most of the real abuses of the empire, and often too with the penalty, the higher do not entirely escape. They, on the contrary, are harassed with trifling and unimportant complaints and penalties, whilst their real malversations, unless very flagrant, are not exhibited to the public. The prime ministers stand in China, as in all despotic governments, on a dangerous pinnacle, which is based

* Lindsay's Report, p. 42, parliamentary edition.

upon the caprice and the life of the prince. On the emperor Keäking's accession to the throne, he condemned his father's prime minister, Hokwăn, to death,* and the edict which contains the sentence cites as precedent similar condemnation of premiers by three of his ancestors out of the four within the present dynasty. The present emperor was more clement or more fortunate in the minister bequeathed by his father; for Tŏtsin, who was prime minister in the year of lord Amherst's embassy (1816), held that office until 1832. This is in itself strong presumptive evidence of his merit, which is nothing weakened perhaps by the circumstance that he seldom figures in our extracts from the Peking gazettes. Once only he is ordered to withdraw from court (in 1829)† to await the result of an inquiry into the conduct of one of his servants: neither the offense nor the result of the inquiry is stated. In 1830, he had *ten days* leave of absence accorded,‡ probably on account of his health; and a little later,‖ the emperor dispenses with his attendance on days of mere formal audience, on account of his age, which exceeded 70. A little later,§ Tŏtsin is found to be one of the select party of 16 whom his majesty banqueted, and occupying the seat of honor, that is the east side; while Changling, the present premier, was on the right, and Sung tajin held a third seat. Nothing more is heard of him until 1832, when two or three memorials from him appear in the gazettes, requesting permission to retire from office. The emperor put him off at first, by allowing short leave of absence, but finding that his health did not improve, he was permitted to retire with the title and pay of minister.¶ He was then 75 years of age, and had served under three emperors, having risen step by step from the situation of clerk in one of the offices at Peking.

The career of some of the great officers of China is both amusing and instructive, and none more so than that of Sung tajin, who has been best known by name to Europeans since the embassy of lord Macartney, to whom he acted both as a guide and a friend.** Sung is stated to have been prime minister in 1824 on the authority of a letter from Kiachta;†† but it seems doubtful if he ever altogether superseded Tŏtsin. He is however spoken of as prime minister by the emperor Keäking himself, in the year 1817, as having attributed the drought which prevailed then at Peking to the monarch's wish to visit Shingking in Mantchouria.

"To utter such language," says the emperor,‡‡ "before the thing

* Penal Code, appendix, No. viii.; Chinese Repository, vol. 3, p. 241.

† Canton Register, September 2d, 1829.

‡ Canton Register, March 17th, 1830. ‖ Canton Register, April 15th, 1830.

§ Canton Register, May 15th, 1830. ¶ Canton Register, March 17th, 1832.

** Lord Macartney speaks of him as a young man of high quality, who had just before been employed on the Russian frontier. "He possesses," adds his lordship, "an elevated mind, and during the whole time of our connection with him, has, on all occasions, conducted himself towards us in the most friendly and gentlemanlike manner. This behavior is agreeable to his natural character." Private Journal in Barrow's Life of Macartney, 1st ed. p. 345.

†† Journal Asiatique, 1826, page 59.

‡‡ Indochinese Gleaner, Feb. 1818, p. 49.

spoken of takes place, and thereby agitate the minds of all, is indeed a great breach of the duties of prime minister." Consequently Sung was deprived of his situation of minister of state and other appointments and reduced to wear a button of the sixth rank, and sent to fill the office of tootung or adjutant-general to the eight standards at Chahaurh in Mongolia. "Let his name be retained in the books," adds the edict, "and if for eight years he commit no error, let him be eligible for his former situation." We find him addressing the emperor thence shortly afterwards on occasion of an attack made by a party of lama priests on a trading wagon, which they plundered, and killed one of the people. Sung's report was in the Mantchou language with a commentary in Chinese: the latter the emperor forbids for the future. He appears to have had a strong party at court all the while, for in the following year three censors made use of the same weapon with which the minister attacked the imperial superstition, and attributed, as had been already alluded to, a hurricane to the disgrace of the premier. The Mathematical Board hinted too at the same conclusion.

It is difficult to understand the object of the minister in preventing the emperor's visit to Tartary, whilst he remained at Peking. The emperor could not however screw up his courage to the journey, without putting forth a preparatory edict which ends by admitting,* "that Sung was fond of performing petty charities and acts of kindness, but that he did not understand true greatness." As to his adherents, his majesty says: "let them do what they please, I, the emperor, will not trouble myself to think about it." One of these adherents, a Tartar nobleman, who had been involved in the premier's disgrace,† was allowed to return into the presence of the emperor, when it was expected that he would acknowledge his offense and his gratitude for the leniency shown him. Instead of this, he threw himself prostrate before the emperor, burst into tears and protested his innocence in terms which reflected upon the emperor himself. He was accordingly disgraced again, and sent back to Tartary. Sung was promoted nevertheless to be captain-general in Mantchouria, but subjected again to imperial censure for his prevailing sin, "clemency beyond the laws." He had tried to obtain restitution of rank for some officers who had been dismissed the service. His benevolence, adds our authority, is said to be so great that beggars cling to his chair in the streets to supplicate alms, and the Tartars worship him. The emperor went to Tartary to visit his father's tomb: it is not said what effect this had upon the elements at Peking;‡ but it appears that he met with much delay and disappointment in consequence of the heavy rains in Tartary. He carried old Sung back with him probably, for we find him employed again in Peking in various important duties in April, 1819, and receiving moreover a royal present of ten taels of ginseng.‖

The emperor shortly finds himself again in trammels, and thwarted

* Ind Gleaner, Oct. 1818, p. 178.
† Ind. Gleaner, Oct. 1818, p. 178.
‡ Ind. Gleaner, July, 1819, p. 117.
‖ Ind. Gleaner, Jan. 1820, p. 229.

moreover in his wish to revisit his patrimony in Mantchouria. A Peking gazette of Oct., 1819,* expresses the emperor's dissatisfaction with the Tartar noblemen around him. He complains of their setting spies over him, "who watch every person whom he calls to an audience; and who during his absence from Peking made daily minutes of all his proceedings." He insists on visiting Mantchouria, whatever may be the consequence; whether Sung tajin or the elements oppose, he must still go, and he reiterates a mandate of his father, that "if any minister of state in China shall presume to advise his master *not to visit Tartary*, it shall be considered treason, and punished with immediate death." It is probable that Sung either continued to thwart the emperor's wish, or else that he desired to accompany him; for we find a proclamation† on the 13th of November, 1819 to the effect that, 'Sung tajin is inadequate to the duties of minister of the imperial presence; because although he formerly officiated as a minister of the imperial presence, he is now upwards of seventy years of age, and *rides very badly on horseback*.' He is sent back to Mantchouria, therefore, to await a vacancy in his old employment of tseängkeun or commander-in-chief, and his sons are allowed to accompany him as a mark of favor. Sung was, however, summoned to another audience, when one son was, at his own request, allowed to remain at court. "The old man," says the emperor, "is yet in robust health, and does not require the pious services of his sons, but he must in case of declining health, be sure to report it, and then send for his son to wait on him."

We find the ex-minister in command in Mantchouria in the following year;‡ but he falls again at that fatal period in his career, the announcement of the emperor's annual visit to the tombs, and that still more ominous era in a prime minister's life, the accession of a new emperor;‖ for it is Taoukwang who now degrades him, Keäking having died a month previous. The Peking gazette of October 3d, 1820, informs us, that a short time before the late emperor's departure for Jĕho, where he died, the long trial about the loss of the *traveling seal of the Military Board* was brought to a close, and implicated a number of statesmen who were connected with that Board. Duke Ho (the emperor's brother-in-law, who is immortalized in the transactions of lord Amherst's embassy) was degraded from all his offices, and commanded to superintend the imperial kitchen. Sung was deprived of his command in Tartary and directed to retire to his own tribe; some officers were banished, and others sentenced to the cangue or pillory. It came out that the seal had been lost many months ago, during the last imperial trip to Tartary; and that the persons in charge of it locked up the empty box, and brought it back to Peking, attended with the usual formalities, as though the seal were in it. This inexplicable history of the seal was probably a part of the intrigues attending Keäking's visits to Moukden, which denote perhaps a struggle of parties in that

* Ind. Gleaner, April, 1820, p. 289.
† Ind. Gleaner, July, 1820, p. 346
‡ Ind. Gleaner, Oct. 1820, p. 412.
‖ Ind. Gleaner, Jan. 1821, p 50.

emperor's declining years, for the favor of his successor.* Sung falls, however, but to rise again, for we find him announced on the 29th of December, 1820,† as *tootung* at Jĕho, after having officiated for a month as one of the presidents of the yushe or censorate. Upon this one of the privy council remonstrates upon Sung's banishment from the emperor's councils, and states boldly that it augurs very unfavorably of his majesty's regard for those upright men, who dare to speak the truth. He declares that Sung is the delight of the court and of the country. His majesty tells him that he talks nonsense and scandal, and orders him to be punished for his presumption.

Sung tajin now turned author, and presented to the emperor a book upon the recently acquired territory in Tartary;‡ and we find nothing more about him until March, 1824, when he is reappointed president of the censors; but ordered|| "to attend to the established routine of his office, instead of wildly confusing and puzzling himself with a multiplicity of extraneous matters. (His majesty must have had one eye to the book.) If he treads in his former track, he will involve himself in criminality." In the seventh moon of 1826, he is dispatched on a commission to the province of Shanse, his office of president being filled by a substitute in the interim.

He is next found at dinner with the emperor on new year's day of 1827;§ then traveling tutor to the heir-apparent to the throne;¶ then at the head of the Board of Rites;** next appointed to inspect the victims for a sacrifice at which the emperor was to assist;†† and then back to his command at Jĕho.‡‡ Thence he memorializes in 1829 to this effect:|||| that 28 years ago, he incurred a public debt to the imperial treasury of about 40,000 taels, which he was to repay in four years. Since that time he has been twice commander-in-chief and governor at Ele; governor of Keängnan, of Canton, &c.; but has never saved money enough to pay off the 40,000 taels; he proposes, therefore, that the whole allowance in his present situation, 700 *taels a year*, may go towards the liquidation of the debt. The emperor says in reply, that he is well aware of Sung's pure official character, and therefore remits the claim. He is shortly afterwards§§ appointed governor of Peking; a month later, president of the Military Board, and ordered at the same time to proceed with all haste across the desert of Cobi to Kopooto at the northwest extremity of the empire, to investigate some affair of importance which had occurred there. He returns to Peking early in the following year,¶¶ and resumes his post of president of the Military Board, and is shortly after appointed to examine the students of the Russian college.***

* Tŏtsin was probably the instigator, for he is spoken of in the report upon literary examinations of 1822, and referred to as Sung's accuser Malacca Observer, June, 1827.

† Ind. Gleaner, July, 1821, p. 178.
‡ Ind. Gleaner, Jan. 1822, p. 274.
|| Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society, vol. 1, p. 388.
§ Malacca Ob., Sept. 25th, 1827.
¶ Malacca Ob., Nov. 20th, 1827.
** Malacca Ob., Feb. 12th, 1828.
†† Malacca Ob., April 8th, 1828.
‡‡ Canton Register, May 10th, 1828.
|||| Malacca Ob., March 10th, 1829
§§ Canton Register, Sept. 2d, 1829.
¶¶ Canton Register, March 17th, 1830.
*** Canton Register, May 15th, 1830.

In 1831,* he is, we are told, acting as secretary for foreign affairs, probably president of the Foreign Board; immediately afterwards he is appointed lord of the three treasuries,† but is soon obliged to resign from ill health,‡ but in less than a month, we find him soliciting employment again.‖ "Sung informed us lately," says the emperor, "that in consequence of his great age, his back and feet were weak, his eyes would no longer fulfill their functions, his hand trembled when he signed documents, and his memory was perceptibly weakened; he requested therefore to retire from service to seek repose, which was granted him. To our surprise," continues the emperor, "we have within these few days received a fresh report from the said Sung, in which he solicits employment. Although we have attended to this last report also, and have appointed him commander of the blue banner of the Mantchous, we cannot but remark with reference to his two requests, that we perceive no change in his health, nor the slightest symptom of disease. All this arises from his accustomed boldness in plaguing us with remonstrances. Sincerity ought to be the first consideration in the intercourse of a sovereign and his ministers. Faithful to this principle, we have always acted with the utmost frankness towards our servants; and have the right, therefore, to expect the same from those who enjoy our favor. Although Sung has acted with caprice, we content ourself this time with leaving him to the rebuke of his own conscience." It seems doubtful, however, if Sung left Peking; for we find him there a month or two later and apparently employed.§

The declining health of the premier Tŏtsin, who retired about this time, occasioned most likely a good deal of intrigue, in which old Sung would be sure to involve himself. We are not surprised, therefore, to find him disgraced again in the beginning of 1832, and reduced to the third degree of rank.¶ The pretense for this infliction was, that when sent on a mission to Tartary two years before, he had ordered his supplies at the public expense instead of his own. He was restored again about August of the same year,** at the solicitation of the prince of Aoukwan, one of the cities in Turkestan, which shows his popularity with those tribes, whom it was policy to soothe. The old courtier has always been supposed to owe a good deal of his influence at court to having a daughter in the harem, who was one of Keäking's inferior wives: he was now perhaps sinking beneath a similar influence; a former number of the Repository†† states a rumor that he had accused a minister of the emperor named Hengän, whose daughter was supposed to be the favorite concubine of the reigning prince, of having usurped all the power at court, deceived the emperor, and taken his own daughter away at midnight. This intrigue is probably connected with the anonymous communication already referred to, and found in the same number of the Repository.

* Canton Register, Oct. 15th, 1831.
† Canton Register, Dec. 1st, 1831.
‡ Canton Register, Dec. 19th, 1831
‖ Jour. Asiatique for 1833. vol. 12, p. 569
§ Canton Register, Feb. 16th, 1832
¶ Canton Register, June 15th, 1832.
** Canton Register Nov 2d. 1832
†† Chinese Repository vol 1. p 471.

Our notices of the poor old minister decrease with his influence, and we hear nothing more of him until the triennial exposition of qualifications of officers in 1833, or the beginning of the following year, when Sung is mentioned last in the list, as being upwards of eighty years of age, and of weakened strength and spirits: he is ordered, therefore, to retire* with the rank of tootung (adjutant-general).

The emperor's father-in-law, Hengăn, is probably destined to play an important part, one day or other, in the events of the present reign, but his name does not occur very frequently at present. He is a descendant of Towseängto, who headed the Tartar troops which subjugated the Ming dynasty.†

The emperor has been greatly incensed against Hengăn, together with three other ministers, for having broken in upon his retirement and mourning on occasion of the death of his late empress, in order to request improper and unprecedented amendments in the mourning ceremonies which the Board of Rites had previously directed. The emperor concluded a long series of documents which were promulgated upon the occasion, by the following sentence:‡ "Let Meënhae be deprived of the freedom of the inner court of the palace, and of the rank of general, and of ten years' salary as wang (prince); the said mulct being extended through 20 years, that he may receive one half of his salary annually to live upon. Let Hengăn be deprived of the offices of minister of the imperial presence, and of president of the tribunal of war; and let him also deliver up the keys and seals of controller of the imperial household. Wanking (a third offender) has attained office through the college of Hanlin. Now if he is ignorant of two expressions in the books of *Yu*, which set the point of ceremony in a perfectly clear light, his learning must be very slight. If he knew them and did not set the ministers right, and so stop the representation at the commencement, he has indeed acted very improperly. Let him, therefore, be deprived of the rank of lieut.-general, and wear the insignia of the third rank only. Let Yuching be deprived of the situation of commander of the guards, and let him retire from the palace gate of Heavenly Purity." "And for what," adds the translator of these documents, "is all this ire manifested? Shall we be believed when we say, it is because these ministers wished to extend the period of mourning, by *not shaving* for one hundred days, instead of one month!" Now, begging the translator's pardon, we think that a long beard is quite sufficient offense in Asia in an officer who has the "freedom of the inner court of the palace," or in the father of the emperor's favorite wife, who takes away his daughter at midnight.

Be this as it may, Hengăn did not attain the premiership if he indeed aimed at it, but Changling who has far better claims, succeeded Tŏtsin,‖ and still maintains his post. He was the successful commander-in-chief in the war in Turkestan in 1826, in speaking of which he will again be alluded to.

* Chinese Repository, vol 3, p. 96
† Canton Register, Feb. 3d, 1830
‡ Canton Register, Oct. 24th, 1833.
‖ Canton Register, March 25th, 1834.

Changling was appointed one of the two assistant ministers of state, when he was acting as governor of Shense and Kansuh in 1821,* and in 1826,† the *ninth recess* (the emperor, who dwells in the ninth court within the palace,) appointed him commander-in-chief of the army to act against the insurgents in little Bukharia or Turkestan. His success there brought him into high favor on his return, which he seems to have enjoyed ever since.‡ He is said to have been upwards of 70 years of age in 1832.

The great officers whose career has been hitherto shown, have all perhaps owed their suceess to their personal influence at court, where they were most often employed. Let us now follow the fortunes of another Tartar nobleman who sat out in life under similar auspices, but whose subsequent ups and downs seem to have been consequent on his management, and the chances in the employments imposed on him. Na Yewching, a Mantchou Tartar, notwithstanding his three names,‖ "possesses," says the Peking gazette of July 20th, 1800, "some talents in outward appearance, but is deficient in judgment, and tardy and indecisive when matters of importance are laid before him; yet does he not attend to the words of others, but is satisfied of the propriety of his own opinions. The few good qualities which he may be allowed to possess are insufficient to cover his misdeeds. He ought, therefore, to be banished; but in consideration of his being the only relative of Akwei,§ an ancient and faithful minister, who is not already banished, he is merely deprived of his offices, except that of vice-president of the imperial college."

Na got into favor again, however, in 1805, and was made governor of Canton, but was disgraced again in 1808,¶ in consequence of admiral Drury's expedition up the Canton river, which the governor could not possibly have prevented, and which was far more disgraceful to the admiral for jeopardizing both parties without any definite object in view. He was afterwards made governor of Cheihle; and dismissed and confined again in 1816 for an excess of expenditure of 20,000 taels of the public money without the sanction of the tribunals.** In 1824,†† we find him memorializing the emperor in quality of governor of Shense and Kansuh. He was appointed governor of Cashgar in 1827,‡‡ being at the time governor of Peking, and in consequece of his supposed good management in repairing the effects of the late Tartar rebellion, he was raised to high honors in 1828,‖‖ and received an imperial present of double eyed peacock's feathers, fox skin jackets, a purple bridle, purses and rings.

* Indochinese Gleaner, 1822, page 312.

† Malacca Observer, Jan. 16, 1826. ‡ Canton Register, Nov. 16th, 1832.

‖ An order of Keäking's was republished in 1828, forbidding Tartars to employ three characters to express their names, because it confounded them with Chinese names. Malacca Observer, June 3d, 1828.

§ See Mémoires sur la Chine, for an account of this minister, tom. 3. p 389

¶ Canton Register, June 18th, 1831.

** Ellis' Journal of the embassy, vol. 1, page 101, 2d ed.

†† Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society, vol. 1, page 405.

‡‡ Canton Register, March 15th, 1828. ‖‖ Canton Register, Feb. 19th, 1829.

A few months afterwards, he is occupying the post of governor of Cheihle, and having shown his abilities in settling affairs of importance, he now exhibits his versatility of talent in minor affairs. The governor addresses a long document to the emperor about an inferior military officer, who married a prostitute. The lady got into a squabble with another woman about a gambling debt, and the *officer chastised the offending party.** "This is a specimen," adds the translator "of many of the papers which appear in the Peking imperial gazette."

In the meantime, another insurrection, had broken out in Turkestan, and Changling was dispatched to subdue it. In his report to the emperor concerning the cause of it, he accuses Na Yewching of having, whilst governor of that country, searched the peoples' houses, and drove away the inhabitants and traders. He interdicted also the export of tea and rhubarb, in consequence of which they formed connections with the surrounding tribes and commenced hostilities. As soon as his majesty received this report, he degraded Na Yewching from the titular rank of 'guardian of the heir-apparent,'† and deprived him of the double eyed peacock's feather and the purple bridle. He was then subjected to a court of inquiry, which sentenced him to dismissal from service, which the emperor confirmed. His son too was, for the father's fault, expelled from the inner apartment of the imperial palace, and degraded to the rank of a third rate guard's man, to stand sentry at the palace gate.

A few months afterwards,‡ the emperor took into consideration Na's services to the state and those of his father, and put him into one of the vacancies occasioned by Sung tajin's feigned illness. Scarcely had he resumed office, however, when another memorial of Changling concerning Na's mismanagement in Tartary aroused the imperial choler anew, and he was again dismissed. Finally, he dies in disgrace in the beginning of 1831,‖ when the emperor, mindful of his former services, drops a tear of sorrow to his memory, and restores all his honors.

A son of Na Yewching, whether the same spoken of above or not, does not appear, was still more unfortunate than his father. He had been resident in Cashgar in 1830 or 1831, when the Bouriats of Audzijan made an irruption into the Cashgar territory, in consequence of which Yungan, (the name of the son,) had been brought to a court of inquiry for weakness, dilatoriness, and cowardice.§ He was sentenced to decapitation, but the emperor, in consideration of his grandfather and father's services, commuted the sentence to banishment and hard labor for life at Kirin in Mantchouria. He was permitted, however, to return from banishment on the death of his father,¶ but ordered to keep within doors and to ponder on his misdeeds. We find a brother too of Na Yewching, the Man-

* Canton Register, Dec. 12th, 1829.
† Canton Register, June 18th, 1831.
‡ Canton Register, Dec. 19th, 1831.
‖ Canton Register, July 15th, 1833.
§ Canton Register, Oct. 17th, 1832.
¶ Canton Register, July 15th, 1833.

tchon general in Szechuen in 1833, but nothing more is known of him.*

All the great officers spoken of above were Mantchou Tartars, to which circumstance they owed perhaps many of their honors and some of their indulgences in disgrace. The career of some of the Chinese dignitaries is, however, little less checkered. Le, who has been so well known by name to foreigners, was fooyuen of Canton in 1824,† afterwards governor of Hoo Kwang, and then sent back to Canton as governor of the two provinces in September, 1826, being at the same time a member of the Military Board, and censor.‡ After coming safely out of a collision with the East India company's factory, in 1829, he was equally successful in quelling an insurrection in the island of Hainan and then returned to Peking. Unhappily for him, the fooyuen who governed in Canton in his absence brought the foreigners upon him, and old Le was dispatched back to set matters to right again. He succeeded in this, and had a narrow escape from a British admiral; but a fresh insurrection broke out among the mountain tribes in the northern part of the province. We shall have occasion to refer to this hereafter; Le failed, was disgraced, and banished to Oroumtsi in Mongolia.‖ He was recalled again, however, last year, and may be yet doomed to a third visit to Canton.

The honors of which these great officers are deprived during their life, are occasionally bestowed on them again after death. We have an instance of this in 1827,§ when the commandant of Hangchow, who died at his seat of command, has funeral rites proper to his rank ordered, and 300 taels to defray the expenses. It is ordered too that on the arrival of the deceased at the city gate,¶ the coffin shall be permitted to enter, and he is restored to every official honor from which he might have been degraded in his lifetime.

It may not be out of place to contrast with this some of his majesty's bounties to his living officers of merit. We find him sending, in 1828, the word "happiness," and a haunch of venison all the way from Peking to the fooyuen of Canton,** and shortly after a box of pills, called "purple golden ingots" to the governor.†† In 1830, he presented two image-gods to the governor of Kansuh and his wife, both of whom were 70 years of age; besides the words 'prosperity and longevity,' precious stones, silks, &c.‡‡

The great age to which the officers of government continue in their employments is very remarkable. Independently of those already mentioned, we find the emperor dispensing with visits of ceremony

* Chinese Repository, vol. 2, p. 144.
† Malacca Obs., Dec. 19th, 1826. ‡ Malacca Observer, Jan. 16th, 1827.
‖ Chinese Repository, vol. 1, p. 423. § Canton Register, Feb. 11th, 1828.
¶ A note added, that no corpse is allowed to enter the gates of Peking without an imperial order; because a rebel is said to have entered in a coffin during the reign of Keënlung. Even at Canton, and in other cities of the empire, no corpse is permitted to enter at the southern gate, because the emperor sits with his face to the south.
** Canton Register, March 29th, 1828. †† Canton Register, July 12th, 1828.
‡‡ Canton Register, April 15th, 1830.

in 1820, on the part of his ministers Ming Leäng, aged 86, and Honing aged 80, at the same time that he excused old Sung.* Ming Leäng is permitted to retire the following year, enjoying a title of nobility, and the whole of his emoluments, both sight and hearing having now failed him.† The emperor is reported this year, to have written out, with his own hand, a list of civilians about the court and in the provinces, who were declared unfit for service from age. In 1824,‡ She Chekwang, late one of the presidents of the Board of Censors, presents a memorial in which he says: "reflecting within myself, that notwithstanding the decay of my strength, it has still pleased the imperial goodness to employ me in a high office instead of rejecting and discarding me at once, I have been most anxious to effect a cure (of sickness) in order that, a weak old horse as I am, it might be still in my power, by the exertion of my whole strength, to recompense a ten thousandth part of the benevolence which restored me to life." He therefore requests permission to retire.

In 1827,‖ the president of the Board of Revenue, being in his 70th year, and having "walked in the inner palace for 27 years," requests leave to retire on account of old age and the lumbago. The next year, we find the minister for foreign affairs retained in office,§ although 80 years of age, as he is still strong and competent to the duties of his office. Another minister, who is between 70 and 80, and always sickly, is dismissed. In 1829, ten pages of the 104th Peking gazette¶ were occupied by a letter of thanks from an old servant in his 80th year, who had served three emperors. In 1830,** a censor remonstrated against the governors of provinces sending their old and infirm officers to Peking, to be employed in the tribunals there. By this practice, he says, the public offices at court, where business of the first importance is transacted, are filled with imbecile old men. "Indeed," adds the translator, "the feeling is now rather severe against old officers: they are subject daily to an order to retire from the service." The late governor of Szechuen, being upwards of 70 years of age, is directed to go home, with his rank and emoluments. But another old officer who is discharged, has sent in a petition to the emperor, praying to be allowed half-pay, as his family is so poor that he has not the means of subsistence. His official friend who writes for him, says he is covered with wounds which he has received in fighting the emperor's battles.

Some officers are dismissed again the following year, on account of age and imbecility,†† many of them without any provision for the future, while others get half-pay, or the whole of their allowances. The language used is often harsh, and governors are told to compel the old imbeciles to retire. At the same time that old Sung tajin's retirement last year is mentioned;‡‡ we find one cabinet mi-

* Ind. Gleaner, Oct. 1820, p. 413.
† Ind. Gleaner, April, 1822, p. 309.
‡ Transactions of the Royal Asiatic Society, vol. 1, page 393.
‖ Malacca Obs., April 10th, 1827.
§ Canton Register, May 17th, 1828.
¶ Canton Register, Jan. 19th, 1830.
** Canton Register, Sep. 18th, 1830.
†† Canton Register, June 18th, 1831.
‡‡ Chinese Repository, vol. 3, p. 96.

nister to be upwards of 80 years of age, and still enjoying his usual good spirits and strength, but who has since died in his 87th year,* and another of 86, whose spirits are rather good, but who has also died since. Another statesmen, who has served 40 years, begs leave to retire this year.† He says he was originally short sighted and now can see nothing distinctly, and he is apprehensive of receiving his allowances, without being able to do the duties of his office, and that he shall be made responsible for what may occur on this account.

Neither the privileges of long service nor the emperor's beneficence‖ will account satisfactorily for men of rank continuing to expose themselves in advanced age to such caprices of favor and fortune as have been exhibited in the foregoing sheets; unless indeed, and there is little room to doubt it, that the emperor will not allow them to retire until their energies mental and physical are extinct. Avarice will account for many of the octogenarians clinging to situations of profit as long as they are permitted; because they are, in the first place, continuing to make money; and in the next, they retain the privileges and influence, which under a despotism are necessary to retain it. But what can be the emperor's inducement to keep men in situations which they are confessedly inadequate to fill? No instance appears of a retired servant having a larger allowance than his nominal full pay, which we have seen to be, in the case of Sung tajin and others, very small; the whole dead weight of the empire must therefore be too trifling to have material effect upon even an ill replenished exchequer. We must rather, perhaps, consider it to be another and a powerful check, which the emperor holds upon the officers of his government. Acting upon the principle of *isolation*, he keeps the patriarch of five generations at court,§ whilst the male members of his family are scattered through the empire, and none can hold offices of trust in the same district where his patrimony lies. The old minister is also perhaps, an excellent spunge to imbibe the exactions of the younger officers of the provinces, and render back its suctions on the slightest pressure of imperial authority. Nor do these patriarchs imbibe solely from their own progeny, but from their clients also;¶ for the clientela exists in China as in ancient Rome, or amongst the Gauls and Franks, being indicative perhaps of a certain stage in the progress of good government and civilization.

The second minister of state and the principal Chinese member of the cabinet at present is Yuen Yuen, who was governor of Canton province from the end of 1817 or beginning of the following year, until, we believe, relieved by Le in 1826.** A sketch of his life is

* Chinese Repository, vol. 3, page 578. † Evangelist, May 21st, 1833.

‖ Staunton's Penal Code, sec. 8.

§ "Let there be an inquiry made in all the provinces for those families in which there are five generations alive, and those who have seen seven generations, and rewards be conferred in addition to the usual honorary tablets conferred by law." Emperor's coronation act of grace. Indochinese Gleaner, vol. 3, page 45.

¶ Chinese Repository, vol 1, page 423.

** Indochinese Gleaner, Aug 1818, page 137

already given in the Repository,* where he is stated to have reached his 80th year in 1833, and we learn elsewhere,† that he had attained considerable rank as early as in the reign of Keënlung. Besides his statesmanlike qualities, his literary talents are said to be of the highest order, and he is married, moreover, to a descendant of Confucius. Yuen was governor of Canton in 1821, when an affray took place between the crew of his Britannic majesty's frigate Topaze, and the inhabitants of Lintin island, which occasioned a suspension of the trade at Canton, followed by a negotiation upon the subject with the East India company's factory, which lasted two or three years. The governor's conduct on the occasion was both firm and conciliatory, and his memorials were admired by foreigners for their polite and dignified style, as compared with similar productions of his predecessors.

There is then in the imperial cabinet at Peking, one minister of the highest talent and character, who has resided several years at Canton, and who has been in actual collision with the foreigners here. This knowledge is of value during the present state of affairs between the British and Chinese authorities. We may presume from this circumstance that the policy of the imperial government with respect to the foreign trade, is adopted advisedly and deliberately, and that it will not be readily changed or abandoned. It may be well, therefore, for the British government, which has had abundant experience to prove how much easier it is to upset Asiatic governments than to reconstruct them, to weigh the above circumstance well, before they attack a policy which may be interwoven with the very existence of the Chinese government. If the barrier which that policy has established against foreigners, must, however, be violently and suddenly removed, it requires at least to be assailed with more effective weapons that inconsiderate demands and empty threats.

[Note. We omitted to state in the proper place, that these 'Notices' are continued by our correspondent, R. I. The name of governor Le should be written Hungpin, and not Heungpun.]

ART. III. *Memorandum of an excursion to the tea hills, which produce the description of tea known in commerce under the designation of Ankoy (Nganke) tea.* By G. J. GORDON, Esq.

[We postpone two articles which were designed for the present number, one on the government and the other a translation, &c., of one of the school books of the Chinese, in order to make room for accounts of two excursions in the province of Fuhkeën. The article which we here introduce is taken from the

* Chinese Repository, vol. 2, page 192. † Ind. Gleaner, Aug. 1818, page 137.

'Journal of the Asiatic Society of Bengal,' for February, 1835, to which it was 'communicated by Dr. N. Wallich, secy. com. tea culture.' Mr. Gordon, who is in Canton at the time this goes to press, has very obligingly furnished us, at our request, with a list of the errata in the article as it appeared in the Journal. Toä-be, Koë-boë, and Ao-e, are in the local dialect.]

"Having been disappointed in my expectations of being enabled to visit the Bohea hills, I was particularly anxious to have an opportunity of personally inspecting the tea plantations in the black tea district of the next greatest celebrity, in order to satisfy myself regarding several points relative to the cultivation, on which the information afforded by different individuals was imperfect or discordant.

"Mr. Gutzlaff accordingly took considerable pains to ascertain for me, from the persons who visited the ship, the most eligible place for landing with the view of visiting the Ankoy hills; and Hwuytow bay was at length fixed upon as the most safe and convenient, both from its being out of the way of observation of any high Chinese functionaries who might be desirous of thwarting our project, and from its being equally near the tea hills as any other part of the coast at which we could land. As laid down in the map of the Jesuits, there is a small river which falls into the head of this bay, by which we were told we should be able to proceed a good part of our way into the interior. We should of course have preferred proceeding by the Ankoy river, which is represented in the same map as having its source to the west of Nganke heën and falling into the river which washes Tseuenchow foo, were it not for the apprehension of being impeded or altogether intercepted by the public functionaries of that city. In order to make ourselves as independent as possible of assistance from the people, we resolved to dispense with every article of equipment which was not necessary for health and safety. The weather had for some days been comparatively cool, the thermometer falling to 55° at sunrise, and not getting higher than 66° during the day, so that warm clothing not only became agreeable, but could not be dispensed with during the nights; arms for our defense against violence from *any* quarter, formed likewise a part of our equipments, and trusting to money, and to Mr. Gutzlaff's intimate knowledge of the language and of the people for the rest, we left the ship on the morning of Monday, November 10th, proceeding in the ship's long-boat towards the head of the bay, where the town of Hwuytow is situated.

"The party in the boat consisted of Mr. Gutzlaff, Mr. Ryder (second officer of the Colonel Young), Mr. Nicholson, late quartermaster of the Water Witch, whom I had engaged for the projected Woo-e journey, and myself, one native servant, and eight Lascars. The wind being unfavorable, we made rather slow progress by rowing, but taking for our guidance the masts of some of the junks which we observed lying behind a point of land, we pulled to get under it, in order to avoid the strength of the ebb tide, which was now setting against us. In attempting to round the point, however, we grounded, and soon found that it was impossible to get into the

river on that side, on account of sand banks which were merely covered at high water, and that it was necessary to make a considerable circuit seaward to be able to enter. This we accomplished, but not till 1 A. M. At this time a light breeze fortunately springing up, we got on very well for sometime, but were again obliged to anchor at ¼ past 2, from want of water. As the tide rose, we gradually advanced towards the town of Hwuytow, till we came to one of those bridges of which there are several along the coast, that extend over wide sand flats that are formed at the months of the rivers. These bridges are constructed of stone piers with slabs of stone laid from pier to pier, some extending over a space of 25 feet and upwards, and others being from 15 to 20 feet span. As the length of this bridge cannot be less than three quarters of a mile, the whole is very striking as a work of great labor, if not exhibiting either much skill or beauty. We were informed by some boat people that we should not find water to carry us beyond the bridge, but observing some tall masts on the other side, we resolved on making the experiment and pushing on as far as we could. It was almost dark when we passed under the bridge, and we had not proceeded far when we were again aground. This, however, we attributed to our unacquaintance with the channel, and as the tide floated us off, we continued advancing, notwithstanding the warning of a friendly voice from the bridge that entreated us to return to the town, promising us comfortable quarters, and a guide, &c. Being rather distrustful of the motives of this advice, however, we proceeded for some time longer, but at length found it impossible to proceed farther, the ebb having at the same time commenced. We therefore spread an awning, and prepared to make ourselves as comfortable as possible for the night. The day had been the warmest we had experienced for a month past, but the night was very cold, and our boat, as may be imagined, far from commodious for so many people. At daylight, we found that there was not six inches of water in any part of the channel, and from the boat we stepped at once upon dry sand. The survey from the bank showed plainly that it would be impossible to proceed any further by water. We accordingly prepared to march on foot, taking with us three Lascars who might relieve each other in carrying our cloke-bag of blankets and great coats, as well as some cold meat. We ordered the people to prepare a meal as fast as possible, intending to make a long stretch at first starting, and Mr. Nicholson was directed to remain in charge of the boat with five Lascars, to move her down under the bridge on the return of the flood, and there to await our return for four or five days. Crowds of people now began to gather around the boat, moved by mere curiosity. Mr. Gutzlaff induced some of them to get ducks and fowls for the use of the boat's crew, and strange to say, prevailed on one man to become our guide, and on two others to undertake to carry our baggage, as soon as we should be a little farther off from the town, and out of the way of observation.

"Soon after, an old gentleman made his appearance in a chair, who proved to be the headman of the town: he inquired whence we came,

and whither we were going, which we freely told him. With these answers he seemed perfectly satisfied, probably from finding them correspond with what he had been already told by some of the people with whom we had communicated on the subject in seeking information and assistance. He measured our boat with his arms, but offered us no obstruction nor even remonstrance. We observed him, however, after he had interrogated us, sending off two or three messengers in different directions, which made us the more anxious to be off. It was however past 9 o'clock, before Mr. Ryder had completed his arrangements for the boat's crew, and the sun was already powerful. We were soon joined by our guide and the coolies, and our cavalcade, winding along the footpaths which are the only roads to be met with, made an imposing appearance. Mr. Gutzlaff and the guide led the way, followed by a Lascar with a boarding pike; next came the baggage, attended by a Lascar similarly armed. I followed with pistols, and attended by a Lascar armed with a cutlas, and Mr. Ryder, carrying a fowling-piece and pistols, brought up the rear. Skirting the town of Hwuytow, we proceeded in a N.N.E. direction at a moderate pace for an hour and a half, when we stopped at a temple, and refreshed ourselves with tea. Nothing could be more kind or more civil than the manners of the people towards us hitherto, and if we could have procured conveyances here so as to have escaped walking in the heat of the day, loaded as we were with heavy woolen clothes, we should have had nothing farther to desire; as it was, my feet already began to feel uncomfortable from swelling, and after another hour's marching, I was obliged to propose a halt til' the cool of the evening. Fortunately we found, however, that chairs were procurable at the place, and we accordingly engaged them at half a dollar each. They were formed in the slightest manner, and carried on bamboo poles, having a cross bar at the extremities which rested on the back of the bearer's neck, apparently a most insecure as well as inconvenient position; but as the poles were at the same time grasped by the hands, the danger of a false step was lessened. We had not advanced above a mile and a half before the bearers declared they must eat, and to enable them to do so, they must get more money. With this impudent demand we thought it best to comply, giving them an additional real each. After an hour's further progress, we were set down at a town near the foot of the first pass which we had to cross. There the bearers clamorously insisted on an additional payment before they would carry us any further. This we resisted, and by Mr. Gutzlaff's eloquence gained the whole of the villagers, who crowded around us, to join in exclaiming against the attempted extortion. Seeing this the rogues submitted and again took us up. Mr. G. mentioned that while we were passing through another village, the people of which begged the bearers to set us down that they might have a look at us, they demanded 100 cash as the condition of compliance. The country through which we passed swarmed with inhabitants, and exhibited the highest degree of cultivation, though it was only in a few spots that we saw any soil which would be deemed in Bengal tolerably

good; rice, the sweet potato, and sugar-cane, were the principal articles of culture. We had now to ascend a barren and rugged mountain, which seemed destined by nature to set the hand of man at defiance; yet even here, there was not a spot where a vegetable would take root, that was not occupied by at least a dwarf pine planted for the purpose of yielding firewood, and a kind of turpentine; and wherever a nook presented an opportunity of gaining a few square yards of level ground by terracing, no labor seems to have been spared to redeem such spots for the purpose of rice cultivation. In ascending the pass we soon came to places where it was difficult for our bearers to find a footing, and where they had consequently to pick out their steps as they advanced. To assist themselves, they gave the chair a swinging motion with which they kept time in raising their feet. This was far from agreeable, and the first impression was that it was done merely to annoy, but we very soon saw that the object was different. The highest point of the pass I should conjecture to be about 1200 feet above the plain, and the descent on the north side to be nearly equal to the ascent from the south, say 1000 feet. At half past four we arrived at a rather romantic valley, which was to be our halting place for the day. We proposed to the bearers to carry us on another stage next day, but for this they had the impudence to ask five dollars per chair. This of course we would not listen to for a moment, and were afterwards happy that we got rid of such rascals, as good bearers and on moderate terms were procurable at the place. The name of this village is Lingtszekeŏ. It seems once to have been a place of greater importance than now, exhibiting marks of dilapidation and decay. Even the footpath over the pass must have been at one time an object of attention, as we found in several places the remains of a sort of pavement, and of bridges which were now nearly destroyed. The inn at which we stopped afforded as few and mean accommodations as could well be imagined, but we were able to get some fowls deliciously grilled, on which, with the aid of sweet potatoes, and of the salt beef which we brought with us, we made a most hearty repast. Among the people who came to see us at the inn was a very respectable looking young man, a student, who won Mr. Gutzlaff's heart by asking him for instruction in religion. Unfortunately, the whole contents of a box of religious tracts, and other books had been distributed in the morning, and Mr. G. was unable to supply him with any. The request was no doubt prompted by the report of the people who had accompanied us, and who had themselves partaken of Mr. G.'s liberality before they volunteered their services. This young man strongly recommended us to alter our course, magnifying the distance of Toä-be to which we were bound to 100 *le* or 30 miles, and telling us that at the distance of 40 *le* or 12 miles to S.W. we should find tea plantations of a very superior description. The exaggeration of the distance led me to suspect the accuracy of the information in other respects, and I had heard enough of contradictory evidence already, not to be swayed by it in the present instance.

"*Nov. 12th.* Got into our chairs at a quarter past six A. M. and proceeded along a narrow rugged dell towards Koe-boe. Several nice looking hamlets were seen on the way. The people were engaged in reaping the rice, which seemed heavy and well filled in the ear. In several places I observed that they had taken the pains to tie clumps of rice together for mutual support. Sugar-cane is bound in the same way, and for additional security, the outside canes are mutually supported by diagonal leaves, which serve at the same time to form them into a kind of fence. The leaves are not tied up round the stalks as in Bengal; the cane is slender, white, hard, and by no means juicy or rich; yet, abating the black fungus powder which is very prevalent, the surface is healthy, and close growing in a remarkable degree. We arrived at Koë-boë at 8 o'clock, and finding we could get water conveyance for part of the way on which we were proceeding, we engaged a boat for that purpose. After a hearty breakfast, we embarked at 10 A. M. amidst crowds of people who covered the banks of the river at the ghát. On inquiry we found that the river on which we were proceeding in a W.N.W. course, was the same which passed Nganke heën, and flowed to Tseuenchow foo. The boat was large, but light, and being flat bottomed drew very little water. The stream was so shallow, that it was only by tracing the deepest part of the channel from side to side of its bed that we were able to advance at all. This was done by poling; in several places the stream was deepened by throwing up little banks of sand so as to confine its course within a channel merely wide enough for the boats to pass through. I estimated the width from bank to bank at 200 yards, and should judge from the height at which sugar is cultivated above the level of the present surface, that the greatest depth in the rainy season does not exceed 10 feet. Being entirely fed by mountain torrents its rise must be often very sudden, but I did not observe any traces of devastation in its course. Its name, Nganke or 'peaceful stream,' is probably derived from this circumstance; the valley on each side seemed well cultivated, the banks being principally occupied by sugar-cane. At every village the people poured out as usual to see us, vying with each other in marks of civility and kindness. The day, however, becoming very hot, we took shelter from the sun under the roof of the boat, to the disappointment of many who waded into the water to gratify themselves with a sight of the strangers. Coming at last to a high bank close to a populous town, they actually offered the boatmen 400 cash if he would bring us to; and on his refusal, the boys began pelting the boat with clods and stones. On this, Mr. Gutzlaff went on deck to remonstrate, and Mr. Ryder to intimidate with his gun. Betwixt both, the effect was instantaneous, and the seniors of the crowd apologized for the rude manner in which the boys had attempted to enforce the gratification of their curiosity. We had been in vain looking out all yesterday and to-day for a glimpse of tea plantations on some of the rugged and black looking hills close in view, though at almost every place where we halted we were assured that such were to be found hard by. At three P. M. we arrived at a town near the foot of

the pass by which we were to reach Toä-be, the place of our destination. Here we proposed selling our gold, which for the sake of lightness I had brought with me in preference to silver, not doubting that I should find little difficulty in exchanging it at its proper relative value whenever required. In this, however, we had been disappointed at our last abode, and we were therefore much vexed at learning from our conductors that the inhabitants of this place were of such a character that the less we had to do with them and the shorter our stay amongst them the better. Some proof of the soundness of this advice we had as we were stepping on shore, being for the first time rudely questioned as to our destination and object, and why we had come armed; our reply to the latter query being that we had armed ourselves with the resolution of resisting violence should it be offered by robbers or others, we were allowed to pass quietly on. The hill we had now to ascend was more rugged, and in some places more abrupt, than that over which we were first carried; and though we set out at three o'clock, the sun had set long before we came to the end of our journey. The moon was unfortunately obscured by clouds, so that nothing could be more unpleasant than the unfortunate *hits* our toes were constantly making against stones, and the equally unfortunate *misses* where an unexpected step downwards made us with a sudden jerk throw our weight on one leg. At length we reached a village at the further end of the pass, the inhabitants of which were so kind as to light us on the remainder of our way, by burning bundles of grass, to the imminent danger of setting fire to their rice fields now ripe for the sickle. Arrived at Toä-be, we were hospitably received by the family of our guide, and soon surrounded by wondering visitors.

"Mr. Gutzlaff speedily selected one or two of the most intelligent of them, and obtained from them ready answers to a variety of questions regarding the cultivation of the tea plant. They informed him that the seed now used for propagating the plant was all produced on the spot, though the original stock of this part of the country was brought from *Woo-e shan;* that it ripened in the 10th or 11th month, and was immediately put into the ground where it was intended to grow, several being put together into one hole, as the greater part was always abortive; that the sprouts appeared in the 3d month after the seeds were put into the ground; that the hole into which the seeds are thrown is from three to four inches deep, and as the plants grow, the earth is gathered up a little around the root; that leaves are taken from the plants when they are three years old, and that there are from most plants four pluckings in the year. No manure is used, nor is goodness of soil considered of consequence; neither are the plants *irrigated.* Each shrub may yield about a *tael* of *dry* tea annually (about the 12th of a pound). A *mow* of ground may contain 300 or 400 plants. The land tax is 300 cash (720 to a dollar,) per mow. The cultivation and gathering of the leaves being performed by families without the assistance of hired laborers, no rate of wages can be specified; but as the curing of the leaf is an art that

requires some skill, persons are employed for that particular purpose, who are paid at the rate of one dollar per pecul of fresh leaves, equal to five dollars per pecul of dry tea. The fireplace used is only temporary, and all the utensils as well as fuel are furnished by the curer of the tea. They stated that the leaves are heated and rolled seven or eight times. The green leaf yields one fifth of its weight of dry tea. The best tea fetches on the spot 23 dollars per pecul (133⅓ lbs.), and the principal part of the produce is consumed within the province, or exported in baskets to Formosa. That the prevailing winds are northwesterly. The easterly winds are the only winds injurious to the plants. Hoar frost is common during the winter months, and snow falls occasionally, but does not lie long, nor to a greater depth than three or four inches. The plant is never injured by excessive cold, and thrives from 10 to 20 years. It is sometimes destroyed by a worm that eats up the pith and converts both stem and branches into tubes, and by a gray lichen which principally attacks very old plants. The period of growth is limited to six or seven years, when the plant has attained its greatest size. The spots where the tea is planted are scattered over great part of the country, but there are no hills appropriated entirely to its culture. No ground in fact is formed into a tea plantation that is fit for any other species of cultivation, except perhaps that of the dwarf pine already alluded to, or the *Camellia oleifera*. Mr. Gutzlaff understood them to say that the plant blossoms twice a year, in the eighth moon or September, and again in winter, but that the latter flowering is abortive. In this I apprehend there was some misunderstanding, as full sized seeds, though not ripe, were proffered to me in considerable quantities early in September, and none were found on the plants which we saw. I suspect that the people meant to say that the seeds take eight months to ripen, which accords with other accounts. We wished much to have spent the following day (the 13th,) in prosecuting our inquiries and observations at Toä-be and its neighborhood, but this was rendered impracticable by the state of our finances. We had plenty of gold, but no one could be found who would purchase it with silver at any price. We therefore resolved on making the most of our time by an early excursion in the morning previous to setting out on our return.

"We accordingly got up at daybreak, and proceeded to visit the spot where the plants were cultivated. We were much struck with the variety of the appearance of the plants; some of the shrubs scarcely rose to the height of a cubit above the ground, and those were so very bushy that the hand could not be thrust between the branches. They were also very thickly covered with leaves, but these were very small, scarcely above ¾ of an inch long. In the same bed were other plants with stems four feet high, far less branchy, and with leaves 1½ to 2 inches in length. The produce of great and small was said to be equal. The distance from centre to centre of the plants was about 1½ feet, and the plants seemed to average about two feet in diameter. Though the ground was not terraced, it was formed into beds that were partly leveled. These were perfectly

well dressed as in garden cultivation, and each little plantation was surrounded by a low stone fence, and a trench. There was no shade, but the places selected for the cultivation were generally in the hollows of hills, where there was a good deal of shelter on two sides, and the slope comparatively easy. I should reckon the site of the highest plantations we visited to be about 700 feet above the plain, but those we saw at half that height and even less appeared more thriving, probably from having somewhat better soil, though the best is little more than mere sand. I have taken specimens from three or four gardens. Contrary to what we had been told the preceding night, I found that each garden had its little nursery where the plants were growing to the height of four or five inches, as closely set as they could stand; from which I conceive that the plant requires absolutely a *free* soil, *not wet* and *not clayey*, but of a texture that will retain moisture; and the best site is one not so low as that at which water is apt to spring from the sides of a hill, nor so high as to be exposed to the violence of stormy weather. There is no use in attempting to cultivate the plant on an easterly exposure, though it is sufficiently hardy to bear almost any degree of dry cold.

"By half-past ten A. M., we set out on our return in chairs which we were fortunate enough to procure at this village, and reached the banks of the river at Ao-e a little before one o'clock. In the first part of our way we passed by some more tea plantations on very sterile ground. One, in a very bleak situation, with nothing but coarse red sand by way of soil, seemed to be abandoned. Our reception at Ao-e was much more civil than it had been the preceding day; the people suggested that we should remain there till a boat could be procured. The day, however, being tolerably cool, we crossed the river, and proceeded on foot along its banks to Koë-boë, where we arrived about four P. M. On the road, a man, who had seen us endeavoring to sell our gold the day before, told us he believed he could find us a purchaser. Mr. Gutzlaff accordingly accompanied him to the house of a farmer, who after having agreed to give eighteen dollars for thirty dollars' worth of gold, suddenly changed his mind, and said he would only give weight for weight. At Koë-boë, however, we were more successful, procuring eighteen dollars for the same thirty dollars' worth of gold. On the road, the villages poured forth their population as we moved along. At one place, they were actually overheard by Mr. Gutzlaff thanking our guides for having conducted us by that road, and proposing to raise a subscription to reward them. At Koë-boë we learned that some petty officers had been inquiring after us, which frightened our guides, and made us desirous to hasten our return. Having procured chairs we pushed on accordingly to Lingtszekeŏ, our first resting place, where we arrived about seven P. M. and halted for the night. Next morning, the 14th, we mounted our chairs before daybreak, but after going a little way, the bearers set us down to wait for the daylight, and we took the opportunity of going to look at a Chinese play which was in the course of performance hard by. There were only two actors but several singers,

whose music to our barbarian ears was far from enchanting. Crossing the pass we met great numbers of people carrying salt in baskets hung on bangies, as in Bengal, and a few with baskets full of the small muscle reared on the mud flats near the place of our landing. After getting into the plain, we took a more direct road for Hwuytow than that by which we had left it. The people forsook their work in the fields, and emptied their numerous villages to gaze at us. As the morning was cold I wore a pair of dark worsted gloves, which I found excited a good deal of speculation. The general opinion was, that I was a hairy animal, and that under my clothes my skin was covered with the same sort of fur as my hands. In China gloves are never worn. At length, one more sceptical than the rest resolved to examine the *paw*, and his doubt being thus further strengthened, he requested me to turn up the sleeve of my coat. I did so, at the same time pulling off a glove to the admiration of the multitude, who immediately set up a shout of laughter at those who had pronounced the strangers a race half man and half baboon. We met some officers in chairs attended by soldiers, but they offered us no interruption, not even communicating with us. Our bearers, however, easily prevailed on theirs to exchange burdens, each party being thus enabled to direct their course to their respective homes. We arrived at Hwuytow before noon, and immediately embarked for the ship, which we reached at three P. M. We learned from Mr. Nicholson that after our departure, and while the boat was still aground, a number of mandarins came down, and carried off almost everything that was on board, but the whole was returned after the boat was floated down below the bridge. As we had no explanation of the matter, we concluded that this proceeding might have been intended for the protection of the property from plunder by the people of the town. We found that one of the seed contractors had dispatched a quantity of Bohea seeds, which arrived during our absence, with a letter stating his expectation of being able to send a further supply and to procure cultivators, who would join the ship in the 11th or 12th month. On the same evening I embarked in the Fairy, and reached Lintin on Monday, November 17th, with my tea seeds, just one week after our landing at Hwuytow to explore the tea hills.—I have been more minute in my details of this little expedition, than may at first sight appear needful, with the view of showing the precise degree and kind of danger and difficulty attending such attempts. Our expectation was, at leaving the ship, that we should reach the head of the bay by nine or ten o'clock A. M. and attain a considerable distance from Hwuytow the same day, and thus have a chance of passing without attracting the notice of any of the kwanfoo or governmental officers. Had we waited to ask permission, it would of course have been refused, and we should have been directed in the most authoritative manner to return to the ship. We were not a little alarmed when aground in the morning, lest the old gentleman who measured our boat should have deemed it his duty to intercept our progress; but we took care to go on with preparations for our march, as if nothing of the kind

was apprehended. It is this sort of conduct alone that will succeed in China. Any sign of hesitation is fatal. Had we shown any marks of alarm, every one would have kept aloof for fear of being implicated in the danger which we seemed to dread; on the other hand, a confident bearing, and the testimony borne by the manner in which we were armed, that we would not passively allow ourselves to be plundered by authority, inspired the like confidence in all those with whom we had to do; for the rest of the narrative shows that from the people left to themselves we experienced nothing but marks of the utmost kindness and good nature, except indeed, where money was to be got: there the Chinese, like the people of other countries, were ready enough to take advantage of the ignorance of strangers, though with such a fluent command of the language as Mr. Gutzlaff possessed, he was able to save us from much fleecing in that way. I need scarcely add, that no good can result from an attempt to penetrate into the interior of China by a party of foreigners, unless some one of them has at least a moderate facility in expressing himself in conversation with the people."

ART. IV. *Expedition to the Bohea (Wooe) hills: arrival in the river Min; passage of the capital, Fuhchow foo; communication with a military officer; approach to Mintsing heën; assailed from an ambush; return; distribution of books.* By the Rev. EDWIN STEVENS, seamen's chaplain at the port of Canton.

[Four years have elapsed since a single foreigner, on board a Chinese junk, visited the northeast coast of China. From that to the present time, foreign ships have been almost constantly on the coast. Accounts of several of these voyages have appeared in the Repository. What is to be the result of this intercourse it is difficult to conjecture: it seems to be steadily increasing, as is evidently also a desire for its extension on the part of the people, and as is likewise the professed opposition of the local authorities. That opposition, which is not to be disregarded, was never perhaps brought out more fully to view, than in Mr. Gordon's second expedition, which was undertaken for the purpose of gaining additional information respecting the culture and manufacture of tea, &c. The vessel employed on the occasion was the brig Governor Findlay, commanded at the time by captain McKay, manned by Lascars. She left Lintin on the 14th of April, and beat her way up to the 'outer mouth' of the river Min, where she anchored May 6th, in lat. 26°6′ N., and long. 119° 53′ E. At that time the following account commences.]

THOUGH the present expedition must be regarded as a failure with respect to the main design of the enterprising mover, that of penetrating to the famous Wooe hills, yet it gave to the party at least a limited view of one province. My own design in accepting the invitation which was kindly given me to join the expedition, was chiefly

threefold; to learn the condition and disposition of the people in the interior, to test the feasibility of traversing the country, and to distribute religious books among the natives. The importance of these objects, seemed to myself and others sufficient to justify any risk or inconvenience which the most reasonable anticipated. With this view, and urged by the motives which are attached to an interesting but doubtful experiment, I committed myself to the gracious care of the Almighty, with full purpose to do all that might properly be done for the accomplishment of the objects. In order to the success of the proposed excursion, it was thought a point of prime importance to set out as early as possible, that no time might be given for spreading the news of our arrival, and for the interposition of any obstacles. All hands were accordingly employed in hoisting out and loading our boat, that advantage might be taken of the present flood tide; but before the utmost dispatch could effect this, the ebb begun and night set in, compelling us to wait another tide. The boat, which acted so conspicuous a part in this expedition, must not be passed over without a word. She was beautifully and strongly built, about twenty-six feet long and eight broad, rigged as a schooner, and fitted to be pulled with eight Chinese oars; quite open except towards the stern, which was covered with a tarpaulin, and formed a rude shelter that answered the double purpose of our eating and sleeping apartment. To avoid all delay and dependence on the Chinese, in case they should be reluctant to sell us supplies, we put into the boat several hundred pounds of rice, fish, flesh, bread, &c., besides all necessary cooking utensils. Several hundred volumes of books and tracts in Chinese were also put on board. Our crew consisted of ten men to manage the sails and oars, one of whom was an European, and the rest Lascars or Caffres and Malays; one servant, and three of us in the cabin; in all fourteen persons. Several guns, pistols, and cutlases were also taken, with the design of protecting us from insult or preventing any attack from thieves and robbers. With this equipment, and without any pilot, we set out on our excursion, with the design of penetrating into the country more than 200 miles, and with the expectation, if successful, of spending at least one month in the boat.

May 7th. On the first making of the flood tide this morning, at one o'clock, A. M., we left the brig, and steering due west, with a light but fair wind, in one hour passed Woohoo mun, the mouth of the river. Thick clouds and the overhanging hills encompassed us in deep darkness as we pursued our silent and solitary course. From the mouth we steered two points south of west, and in another hour and a half arrived at the fortress of Minngan, twelve or fourteen miles from the vessel, and about half-way up to the city of Fuhchow. Here there was visible only a long line of wall, running near the margin of the river, another rising above, and parallel with it, thus going up one platform over another, and the whole surmounted with trees. The stream here is contracted within very narrow limits by the high and bold hills on both sides. Four or five miles beyond

this fortress, we saw Pagoda island standing in the midst of the river and crowned with a pagoda. To this place it is said, the largest ships may come with safety, and smaller vessels pass ten miles further to the capital itself. Above this island, the river divides, or rather reunites with a branch that puts off from it several miles above the city. Having learned thus much from father Du Halde's map of Fuhkeën, we determined to take the left branch, with the hope, by avoiding the city, of escaping detention from the military stationed there. Leaving the proper Min therefore on our right, we entered the western river by a broad mouth, marked with extensive rice grounds. While sailing up this stream with fair wind and tide, the morning sun looked down upon us between the hills, and opened to us a most delightful prospect. A remarkable, serrated, and lofty ridge bounded our view on the west; on each hand high hills enclosed us, approached through groves of trees and various shrubbery; the hills themselves being no less verdant than all around them. On one of the highest hills under which we passed, was a small fort, which we scarcely noticed at the time, but had occasion to observe afterwards.

A village now appeared on the island upon the right hand, which we passed sufficiently near to see the ensigns of a custom-house, and the commotion excited among the common people. The boatman lay on his oar to gaze at the sudden apparition; the workman and the workwoman in the fields dropped their implements in surprise, and ran to see the strange sail so smoothly and rapidly gliding by. But not an unfriendly word or any mark of disapprobation was uttered: rather they were ready to give any information in their power, relative to the questions we proposed respecting the way. It was soon after passing this village, that we were called on to choose between two branches into which the stream divided. Much to our chagrin it was soon discovered that the branch which we had selected was at every turn sending off another branch and still another, till we were at last carried along by a rapid tide in a stream scarce thirty yards across. It was now nine o'clock A. M., and while the boat was delayed in preparing for breakfast, Mr. Gutzlaff and myself went ashore, with the double purpose of ascertaining whither the stream actually led, and of distributing books to the people who had already assembled in large numbers. The first point was soon settled by discovering that our promising stream lost itself in supplying water to the numerous ditches which served to irrigate the rice grounds. We found also that we had already ascended above the capital, and were distant from it but a short space, as the people were constantly going thither, and invited us to accompany them, not knowing that the city was just the place we wished to avoid. The books were gratefully received, and as usual in all cases of distribution among a crowd, some were so eager to possess themselves of a book that they scarcely waited for the slow process of distribution.

The falling tide effectually prevented our returning, and at two o'clock P. M. the boat was aground, there to lie during the next four or five hours. Mr. Gutzlaff and myself again took another excur-

sion on shore, having the same purposes as before, but a larger supply of books. Yet we found it impossible to keep any of them till we had reached the end of our walk. This was the more regretted, because we there entered a house to obtain some water, and found the whole family assembled, consisting of several gentlemen of respectable appearance, besides the females. The old gray-headed father said, "how could you give away all your books, and not leave even one for us?" These were intelligent persons, and from their directions, confirmed by that of others, we ascertained our proper course. It may be observed here, that the spoken dialect of the people differed so much from that of the province of Fuhkeën, as spoken abroad, that even Mr. Gutzlaff found it difficult to converse with them. Recourse was sometimes obliged to be had to writing. But after a short time, by attention to their peculiarities of tone and phraseology, he overcame the difficulty in a great measure. For example, Fuhchow foo was pronounced by them, Hochew hoo.

The people exhibited no hostility, but rather friendly feelings, and sold us geese, fowls, pork, eggs, and fruit. The only injury we suffered from them in this, or any other place, was the loss of a metal basin which a sly rogue contrived to take off unseen, though watched by a vigilant Caffre with a drawn cutlas. At seven in the evening, the tide had risen so as to float us, and after two hours' exertion in pulling and dragging the boat, we regained our lost way, and set forward again with a fresh breeze. This flattering prospect soon changed, and the frequent shoals rendering it difficult and dangerous to proceed, at 11 o'clock we anchored for the night, having advanced to-day, exclusive of all delays and retrogression, twenty-five or thirty miles.

May 8th. This morning our broad river had fallen with the tide so much that only sand banks appeared all around us, and no channel was visible by which we could hope to advance. Happily, a pilot offered himself, who assisted us to return and get into another branch; but becoming alarmed by the warnings of his friends, or moved by his own roguish disposition, he soon contrived to take off himself and a dollar of bargain money, leaving us in inextricable difficulty. Well convinced at last that we could not get through to the Min without a pilot, Mr. Gutzlaff went on shore to obtain a guide or some definite information. Much to our mutual disappointment, he soon returned with two clerks, and a military officer, who politely offered to act as pilot. He declared that he "was a man of generous feelings who understood the proprieties due to strangers, and was dispatched to aid us." Knowing that it would be impossible to procure any other guides, now that an officer was with us, we accepted his offer to take us into the Min *above the city*. It must not be supposed that we for a moment believed he would fulfill his promise; but preferring to be taken to Fuhchow, or to retrace our way, rather than to do nothing for any longer time, we condescended to let him gratify himself by conducting us out of his district. As we anticipated, he towed us back towards the pagoda, his clerks meanwhile

being busied in writing out, as we supposed, a proper description of our capture, our persons and boat, ready to be delivered at the first station to which we came, and which was just beneath the fort that crowned the hill before mentioned. But when he had landed for this purpose, and requested us to anchor, we, having no desire to do so, cast off the rope, and made our own way towards Pagoda island, entered the Min again, and ascended a short distance, when the night compelled us to anchor. Not long after, our old friend the officer came up and anchored near us. The discomforts of that tempestuous night were aggravated by discovering towards morning that the depth of water, which had been 2½ or 3 fathoms at the time of anchoring, was now less than three feet, and the boat in danger of capsizing entirely. By propping up one side, however, we succeeded in supporting her till the return of the tide again set us right.

May 9th. Notwithstanding the past untoward circumstances, all the party were quite unwilling to return to the vessel without at least making one fair trial of passing the city. Accordingly at six o'clock this morning, though the rain and strong gusts continued, yet with shortened sail and flood tide we drove on rapidly towards Fuhchow. In an hour we arrived among numerous junks, in sight of the great stone bridge. Here we anchored in three fathoms, to strike our masts that we might pass the bridge. During this time the junks were filled with people gazing at us, many boats came around, and some with the military came off to us, but no obstruction or dissatisfaction appeared. We then advanced with oars, choosing the left hand side of the river as least affected by the tide, and in a few minutes shot under the bridge safely, though a strong tide was rushing past at the time. A troop of soldiers which were drawn up on the left shore offered no opposition, though we passed them but a few yards distant. Four small boats with soldiers immediately put off after us, to whom Mr. Gutzlaff said that we had a document to deliver, and would communicate with them, if they pleased, as soon as we came to anchor. This course we had determined upon, not imagining that the passage of the great city of Fuhchow, in broad day, would be permitted without one word of remonstrance, or a command to return, or a call to stop. But so it was. In accordance with this expectation, and to suit the Chinese taste of *giving a reason for every act*, Mr. Gordon had drawn up a petition to the governor of Fuhkeën and Chĕkeäng, 'praying for permission to import rice into the harbors of those provinces on the same terms as at Canton.' One copy of this petition had been left with captain McKay in the brig, to deliver to any officer who should demand the reason of the vessel's continuing to lie there; and another copy was taken with us, to be delivered in case it should seem expedient.

But having cleared the bridge without any obstruction we were encouraged to continue our course, which we did, till we had passed the whole city and the extensive suburbs. The boat was then anchored in four and a half fathoms to reship the masts, during which

time the four boats came up near us, but did not offer to communicate, though previously invited.

Almost immediately after we had made sail again, much to our surprise another bridge similar to the first was observed just before us, apparently forming another obstacle or creating delay; but the upper part in several places was so broken down that the columns only remained, between two of which we passed safely, though not without some reasonable alarm at sight of the fallen rocks which lay near the surface. From this place we advanced rapidly with a fair wind, leaving our pursuers and all others far astern. The appearance of the country soon after we left the city became uniformly hilly, the hills often rising quite from the river's bank, and occasionally retiring a little, formed vales and plains, covered with the orange or mulberry. On our right, the rugged bank exhibited a well formed footpath for the boatmen that drag the native boats against the current. This continued for several miles above the city, and drew my attention the more, from being the first specimen of made road which I had seen in China. After running by the most moderate estimation ten or twelve miles without interruption, we ran aground and hauling off with difficulty we came to on the right shore, about noon, to make preparation for breakfast.

The shore appeared precipitous and nearly destitute of cultivation or inhabitants, but everything on board being thoroughly saturated with rain, Mr. Gutzlaff voluntcered his services to search for a house and procure us fire. He ascended the hill, and approached a house, but the poor people made fast the door and fled in terror, and could not be recalled by voice or gestures. I went over the first ridge of the bank, and saw immediately before me a rich and highly cultivated valley, laid out into rice grounds; but when I drew near to the cottages, the people all locked them up and fled, the dogs ran howling after them, leaving me undisputed master of the field. Wild strawberries were growing here, most tempting to the eye but of very indifferent flavor. After returning to the boat, it was not long before the ever prevalent curiosity of the people, emboldened by their own numbers or by our inoffensiveness, drew together a crowd of spectators on the hill over us. While they stood here under a heavy rain, I had the pleasure of distributing among them one by one a small tract, which was gratefully received by all, and which served to establish confidence between us. By this time the four military boats had come up, and taken position near us, but without in any way annoying us, and to several of their people who mingled with the crowd, I gave a share of the books.

The chief officer in command sent a clerk to our boat with a note on red paper, civilly inquiring who we were; satisfied with the reply that we were English, he then asked whither we were going, what was our object, and when we proposed to return; to which it was answered, that we wished to view the beautiful scenery of the Min and see the famous tea shrub, and that we should return in a few days, merely asking on our part a supply of provisions for which we would

give fair prices. To these he courteously replied that no provisions could be procured at this place, but that we should wait a little; he further intimated that the river was rapid and difficult of navigation, but spoke no word of returning back.

From this point onward the current was constantly against us, and in a few miles more we were wholly beyond the influence of any tides. When the wind returned in sufficient strength to enable the boat to stem the current, we again made sail, and the attendant military immediately followed us. By constant sounding, and by following any boat that happened to be before us, we did not often run aground. It was now quite time to stop for the night, and for this purpose we kept on the lookout to discover a temple or solitary house where we might disembark and dry and warm the wet and shivering crew, most of whom were now nearly useless through the cold and fatigue. But though we passed a large village, yet before finding any house to our purpose night closed in upon us, and we came to anchor as we best might. I walked a great distance on the shore to find some house near the river, but though the marks of cultivation were all around me, no human dwelling was visible. By this time our satellites had come up and taken their station at a short distance from us. It was a dismal night, while we lay there exposed to wind and rain, but the party were in high spirits on account of the unexpected success in passing the capital, and advancing so far without the least opposition.

May 10th. The morning opened with continued rain, and with a temperature of 57 degrees. Soon after making sail, the war boats, then increased to five, seemed for a few minutes inclined to bear down and intercept us; but it is probable we mistook their intention, as they did not indicate any desire that we should return, nor repeat the manœuvre. A few things only worthy of notice occurred to-day; the rapidity and force of the downward current was so great, running perhaps over a rocky bottom, that for miles the whole surface of the river was covered with foam and violently agitated; but we continued our course safely. Another circumstance was first observed to-day, that most of the people to whom we spoke, either made no answer other than the expressive one of laying their finger on their lips, or else merely said that we were in the right way, but that they could not speak more. As we had now far outsailed our pursuers, this fact served to show that the news had preceded us, and that orders had been issued against holding intercourse with us. This morning also Messrs. Gordon and Gutzlaff first recognized the tea plant growing on many of the hills which we passed. It appeared to be small, scarcely exceeding one or two feet in height. In the afternoon the rain and wind ceased together, and left us to contend against the descending stream, which was so strong that oars were useless. Following the example of the native boats that were with us, we sent the men ashore with a rope, and by towing succeeded in ascending near to the town of Mintsing. Here so strong a current met us, that to relieve the crew we came to anchor

before night. The military boats on the other hand came up, and contrary to their custom, by hard labor pushed on past us to the distance of a mile, into the vicinity of the town. By estimation and by the map, we reckoned ourselves at least seventy miles from the mouth of the river.

At first, the people whom we saw on shore refused to answer any questions, or sell any provisions; but after observing that we did no injury, and hearing Mr. Gutzlaff speaking their language, and above all, after they saw us freely giving away good books, their manners were entirely changed, confidence was established, and they brought presents in return, or offered for sale such supplies as we desired. At evening, a small boat came to us with a gold buttoned officer, bearing an unsealed and unsigned note, as Mr. Gutzlaff informed me, which he desired to hand to us. He further stated that he came to protect us from the treacherous people, and that we ought to return. This being the first intimation which we had heard of such a desire, after we had been three full days in company with the military, and withal being conveyed in an unofficial manner so that it could be denied at any convenient time, it was not deemed advisable to receive the paper. He accordingly returned with it. The bystanders relieved Mr. Gutzlaff from the necessity of conversation with the officer by asserting that he only knew two or three Chinese words, just enough to ask for fowls and ducks, which they declared were all we wanted,—carefully refraining from any mention of the books which they had just received.

May 11th. From the firing of crackers and guns not far before us, it seemed probable that we might meet with difficulty in passing the town. A little boy also handed us a paper which stated that "nine thousand officers and soldiers awaited us in front, and should we even pass them, there were ten thousand more in reserve." Regarding this as the offspring of a friendly fear for us, or more probably as a trick of intimidation from the military, we returned it without remark. It had been unanimously agreed, that any resort to force on our part in order to gain a passage, was in our circumstances both unjustifiable and preposterous. So little apprehension of any occasion for it existed, that not a gun in the boat was loaded. At half past eleven, a fair and fresh wind sprung up, when we immediately set forward, ploughing the stream in fine style, and leaving some hundreds of friendly natives waving their adieus to us. In fifteen minutes we were surprised by the sound of guns and the splash of balls near us. Perceiving the firing was from both banks, but not apprehending much more than an attempt to intimidate us, we merely put the boat in the middle of the river and kept on. The lulling of the breeze just at this moment, which we hoped would soon carry us past them, gave us unwillingly an opportunity of more minutely observing the assailants. On our right, stationed in a secure ravine, were about twenty soldiers with matchlocks. These took deliberate aim at us, lying down for the purpose; and when they perceived a shot take effect, raised a shout of triumph. Many of

their balls fell short. On our left, also in a deep passage, were stationed apparently a hundred men, with matchlocks and small cannon or swivels, mounted on a low, temporary breastwork. From this place of ambush, they fired rounds with some degree of regularity, sending the balls quite across the river. When danger was seriously apprehended, we had already gone so far past the direct line of the fire, that it seemed doubtful whether it were not as safe to keep on as to return. But after we had gotten almost behind their fire, and perceived them leaving their stations to pursue us, we determined to return, well assured that it was vain to think of advancing against hostility so determined, to a recurrence of which we must be constantly liable.

The firing continued some time *after* we put about the boat; yet it is but just to say, that this may be accounted for as well by supposing them to have mistaken our intention in putting about, for a design to land and attack the party on one shore, as by any other supposition. This is the more plausible explanation from the fact, that the firing did eventually cease while we were yet directly opposite to the stations, and consequently within the range of their shot. Nineteen balls in all struck the boat and sails, yet through the overruling and gracious hand of God, no one was killed, and but two men wounded. Two shots passed through the frail cabin where Messrs. Gordon and Gutzlaff were sitting at the time; several shivered the gunwale of the boat, and many hit the oars and sides. Very providentially we had just been clearing out the boat, so that most of the crew by lying down were in a measure protected, whereas had they been sitting up as usual, several of them must have been shot by the balls which passed through the lower part of the sails. It was not through any foresight of ours that this salutary precaution had been taken. On our part not a shot was fired from first to last, but we left them, as we desired, to bear alone any imputation of barbarism which might attach to the infliction of violence on the unresisting.

May 12th. Having relinquished all thought of advancing further, it only remained to secure a safe retreat. During all of yesterday, therefore we beat down stream, till we were again near the capital, where we could not be quite certain of a friendly reception after the rude sort of greeting which had been given us at Mintsing heën. But happily, though unfortunately as we then esteemed it, this question was put beyond our reach, by the boat running aground in the night, and remaining immoveable. On awaking this morning, we found ourselves high in a field, and no water within many yards of us. Compelled to await the return of the tide, we bought of the friendly people, kids, fish, and fowls, in plenty; and though they saw the shattered condition of the boat with shot still adhering to the sides, they were no less ready to oblige us, and to traffic, than they had been three days ago. In the midst of this pleasant intercouse, we were rudely interrupted by the arrival of two boats filled with military, one party of whom drew up on the shore at a little distance, and

the other approached us. The people were speedily but reluctantly dispersed, some exclaiming, "we shall now get no books." By some means or other a soldier and an officer stepped into our boat, from which the former was speedily ejected, and the latter was about to be handed down noways gently, when Mr. Gutzlaff begged that a parley might be allowed.

Another officer also was permitted to come on board, and they commenced in an angry and rude manner, demanding who we were, &c. Mr. Gutzlaff told them that we had come on important business, that we now wished to return, and were willing to receive their assistance, but to submit to no mark of submission or insult whatever. Mr. Gordon then handed to one of them the sealed petition to the governor, and requested him to deliver it. He looked on it with evident surprize, observing "the superscription is quite right," and promised to forward it accordingly. When Mr. Gutzlaff charged them with cowardice and treachery in employing such deadly force on a few unresisting men, and showed them the means of defense which we possessed, they were greatly crestfallen; at first knew nothing of the occurrence, and finally denied having any share in the transaction themselves. Nor did these poor lieutenants, nor any other officer whom we afterwards met, attempt to utter one justifying word; nay, they allowed and regretted its impropriety.

It was evidently the business of these officers to see that we were safely beyond their jurisdiction, and we therefore accepted their doubtful aid in towing our boat, being always ready to cast off the rope when we pleased. They took us by the same unfortunate western branch, which we had so long vainly sought to ascend, by which means we did not repass the capital. It was not long before the officers were on good terms with us, and were particularly confidential in their intercourse with Mr. Gutzlaff. One of the soldiers even ventured on board and submitted himself to Mr. G.'s medical skill. The elder officer had seen service in the Formosan rebellion of 1832, and there had won laurels. He stated of his own accord, that his son was now an officer on the Tsungngan station, that he himself had been there; and that it would have been quite impossible for our boat to ascend the river so high. The wind and rain increasing, they were desirous to stop at the village which we had noticed on the first morning; but at our remonstrance took us to another convenient anchorage for the night. Here Mr. Gordon respectfully but firmly demanded that they should leave our boat, to which they consented with evident reluctance; and in consequence of their courteous behavior in general, he sent them a present of printed handkerchiefs. They also purchased some provisions for us, at double price however.

May 13th. At one o'clock this morning, we weighed anchor, at the first ebb, and proceeded down the river to Minngan, towed by our friend of yesterday. The fleet of war boats, which now amounted to about a dozen, each bearing a lantern over the stern, and the commodore's junk carrying three, formed a beautiful sight as they

beat down the narrow stream with such unfailing order and precision that no difficulty once occurred. Arrived at Minngan about two o'clock, the officer landed, bid us anchor under the fortress, and determined to come into our boat; but when he sent soldiers to enforce the order, Mr. Gordon firmly declared that he would shoot the first man that stepped on board the boat. All was now changed at once, and the same officer said aloud, "Why do you stop these men? Let them proceed by all means." Casting off the rope therefore, we continued our course alone, which was occasionally illuminated by rockets thrown from Minngan, and answered by similar signals from war boats before us. As though destined to try all wrong ways, in the darkness of night we mistook the river and passed quite out to sea by the western entrance; and in beating back into the Min, encountered such a storm as nearly filled our boat, and compelled us to anchor. But a war junk which was near, was hired by Mr. Gutzlaff to pilot us down to the brig; they also readily admitted our men to come on board their boat and prepare our breakfast, which it was quite impossible to do in our half-swamped boat. When we came in sight of the vessel, however, our pilots influenced probably by fear refused to take us any further, and left us to pass the Woohoo mun alone. At two P. M. we arrived at the Governor Findlay, amidst grand salutes from the fort at the Bogue, the war junks, and from everything else that could burn powder. Grateful to God for his protection amidst all dangers, we were also happy to find all on board very well.

The tract of country through which this excursion led us, independent of all other considerations, is one of great interest and beauty. "The river Min, though in magnitude it may seem but insignificant in comparison with several of the vast rivers of Asia and China, yet in real utility and commercial importance will contest the palm with any of them." It drains the waters of the province from the parallel of 28° to 25° 30′ north; and in longitude extends through the whole breadth of Fuhkeën. Its northern branch rising in the province of Chĕkeäng, passes southward through the very centre of the Wooe hills, joins the two western branches at the city of Yenping foo, from whence pursuing a southeast direction it reaches the ocean, after a course of above 300 miles. Besides the capital, Fuhchow, there stand on this river and its branches three cities of the foo order, and twenty-two of the heën, in all, twenty-six walled towns. Bold, high and romantic hills give a uniform, yet ever varying, aspect to the country; but it partakes so much of the mountainous character that it may be truly said, beyond the capital we saw not one plain, even of small extent. But every hill was covered with verdure from the base to the summit. The less rugged were laid out in terraces, rising above each other, sometimes to the number of thirty or forty. On these the yellow barley and wheat were waving over our heads; here and there a laborer, with a bundle of the grain which he had reaped on his shoulder, was bringing it down the hill to thrash it out. Orange, lemon, or mulberry groves, and other trees,

sometimes shaded a narrow strip along the banks, half concealing the cottages of the inhabitants. Rarely have my eyes seen so varied and lovely, and at the same time so extensive, a tract, as the valley of the Min. Neither did we in any instance receive unkind treatment from the people, nor except in the attack at Mintsing, from the military. The interesting events of that week will not be easily forgotten by those who passed so rapidly through them. And as the result is, it is peculiarly gratifying to know that among the friendly people, were left several hundred volumes of books, which may teach the way of salvation, while they remind them of the kindness of foreigners, long after the noise of the present events has died away.

The result of this expedition, taken in connection with the transactions of last summer in the river of Canton, will go to prove that the interior of China cannot be traversed with impunity by foreigners. The erection of new, and the repairing of old, forts, and the garrisoning of deserted military stations, all indicate a sort of indefinite apprehension of danger from abroad. The vigilance of the imperial officers in the interior forbids the hope that a foreigner can penetrate far without detection; and their adhesiveness when once attached to the intruder equally allows no hope of escaping from them. If the Chinese costume were adopted, this might prolong the time of detection, but would much more diminish personal safety after such a discovery. But this prevalent feeling of suspicion is not of much consequence to the merchant, who only proposes to send his vessels into the outer harbors for the sake of trade. The disposition of the people was sufficiently manifested by their readiness to seize opportunities of intercourse, and especially of trade, with us. More than once were we importuned by the villagers among whom we went on shore after our return, to drive away the fleet that was stationed to guard us. Nor need this feeling retard the zeal of the missionary, before whom lies a well inhabited seacoast of many hundred miles, to much of which access may be had in the way of transient visits at least, and where live a numerous body of our fellow-men, ready to receive from our hands religious books. The evidences of this readiness we constantly found in this short excursion.

The books which were taken on the expedition were an Address to the Chinese nation, inculcating kindness towards all men on the principles of the gospel, the Life of Christ, and a Commentary on the ten commandments. The first time we stopped in the river, Mr. Gutzlaff gave a number of books to a man who stood on shore, desiring him to distribute them among the crowd; but the applicants grew so eager and rude that the poor man was thrown down by the contending bystanders. Twice during the same day, having lost our way, Mr. Gutzlaff and myself took long walks on shore with books, which were gratefully received by the peasantry. There was no need to ask them to receive a book, for they in one instance actually took them from us by force. During all that afternoon we continued to distribute from the boat to the poor, who waded into the water and came to us, and to the richer, who stood on the bank

and sent requests for a book. The little boy who ferried us ashore, said, "I ask no money, only give me a book." On another occasion, at our anchorage near Mintsing, Mr. Gutzlaff and myself proceeded to a valley in the neighborhood, but nobody would have any communication with us. Yet after distributing among them some copies of the Address to the Chinese nation, they became friendly and ready to render any service. Next morning they assembled in greater numbers, with more earnest expressions of good-will; but it was not thought proper to attract a greater concourse by distributing tracts, and many of them went away unsupplied. On our retreat, while lying aground, the people were importunate for books, and the persons who agreed to aid in getting off the boat did it on the express stipulation of a book for each one, besides the promised reward. The arrival of the officers prevented distribution here.

But it was after our return to the vessel, that the most extensive opportunity was enjoyed of putting into circulation the various books. Through the kindness of captain McKay, during three successive days we landed and distributed them without any restraint, and to the extent which our strength permitted. On the first morning, I landed with a good supply, and with a seaman to assist in carrying them to a village one or two miles distant. As we approached, many inhabitants assembled in front of an idol temple to receive them from my hand. They then led the way through their village, and as I passed through the narrow streets, I left a book at each door. They were eagerly but properly received, and when all were gone, I was invited to enter a house and take some refreshment. The next day, Mr. Gutzlaff and myself landed at the same place with a greater quantity of books, and distributed them in the same village, and in another beyond. They were eagerly received, and the only complaint was that they were angry with Mr. Gutzlaff for taking any to the other village. On our return most of the people were in their houses reading the books. A teacher was explaining one of the hymns of Dr. Morrison's sheet tracts to the bystanders. The beautiful island of Hookeäng we visited on the third day, with a very large number of books. Mr. Gutzlaff and myself took different routes to the large village which is on it, but had scarcely entered it before the people became so pressing that to prevent being quite plundered, I was obliged to climb a wall above their reach. This did not prevent their tearing the books from each other's hands, and occasionally injuring the book by that means. Mr. Gutzlaff went through a street and distributed them as regularly as a boisterous crowd permitted. But the whole truth would not be said, if room were left to suppose that religious books and instruction were all the desire of the people. More than once when giving away the sacred word, we were surrounded by a set of miserable, pale-faced slaves of opium, importuning us to give them a morsel of their favorite narcotic; and when they ascertained that the ship actually carried it for sale, it was impossible to make them believe that I had not got some about my person, nor was it easy to escape their pressing intreaties.

These examples are sufficient, if need be, to show the willingness of the people to receive and read foreign religious books. In ordinary cases it is not possible to distribute regularly in a town or a large village; the eagerness of the crowd is so great that no man can withstand the forcible application of the people for books. But this disposition will be misunderstood, if any one attributes it in general to any extraordinary interest in religion. It seems to me neither a new nor a local feeling; but but from Kwangtung to Shantung the same spirit of curiosity generally prevails, and it would probably have been the same ten years since as at this time. Let us not suppose that it is owing to the religious sensibilities of the nation being particularly excited at the present time; but rather to the national curiosity being awakened, and finding an opportunity of being cheaply gratified. This excitement of curiosity must be chiefly attributable to the exertions which have been made upon the maritime parts of China during the last three years; and among the thousands and even millions who during that time have heard or read of the gospel, it would indeed be strange that not one inquirer should be found, who was moved by better motives, and by truly religious feelings. I do not therefore mean to exclude the opinion that there may be frequent instances of this sort; but only to say that the same eagerness exists where neither missionaries nor their books have been known.

To take advantage of this trait of the Chinese people is our duty as Christians, and thereby to introduce the knowledge of the Christian religion. While the coast is accessible to them who minister to their *depraved appetites*, it is not right that the field should be given up to that traffic. Nor is it to be supposed that a scrupulous adherence on our part to mild and equitable measures will fail of producing some good effect on the people and on the government. When the people see that we are their friends, that we do them no injury, that we heal their sick without reward, that we give them religious books and instruction without money and price, that we seek not so much "theirs as them," and that this course of benevolent action is persevered in amidst all inconveniences, there must be a sensible effect produced. The inquiry will be made, what do these things mean? As to the law against intercourse with foreigners, I acknowledge no allegiance to such law, *so far as the legitimate means of preaching the gospel are concerned.* We have a more sure mandate to preach the gospel *in all the world*, than the monarch of China can plead for his title to the throne. By what right are the millions of China excluded from the knowledge of Christianity? They are most unjustly deprived of even an opportunity to make themselves happy for time and for eternity, by an authority which is usurped, but which they cannot resist; and there they have been from age to age idolaters, and are so still, cut off without their own consent from that which makes life a blessing. Against such spiritual tyranny over men's consciences, and rebellion against high Heaven, I protest; and if we take upon ourselves the consequences of governmental ven-

geance, who will say that we do wrong to any man? It is not to the government of my own beloved country that I look for protection from danger, or redress of *such* wrongs; nor do I ask the bloody hand of war to prepare the way for the heralds of the Prince of Peace. As our commission rests on these words of our Lord, "go ye and teach all nations," so is our confidence founded on his accompanying assurance "all power is given unto me in heaven and in earth," and "lo, I am with you alway, even unto the end of the world."

ART. V. *Literary notices.* 1. *Dissolution of the library of the British factory in China; 2. Books presented to the Morrison Education Society; 3. Report of the Anglochinese college, Malacca; 4. Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland.*

1. FROM "a catalogue of the library belonging to the English factory at Canton," it appears that the foundation of that library was laid in 1806, in consequence of the unanimous adoption by the members of the factory, of the plan contained in the following paragraph. "The utility and advantages of establishing at Canton, by subscription, a library comprising a moderate collection of works of acknowledged value and respectability; together with an annual contribution of all the most desirable new publication, which are at present, generally either not imported at all, or multiplied by unnecessary repetitions, must be obvious to most of the English residents in China. The number of private collections already made by individuals, not only affords a satisfactory ground for supposing that their respective engagements are favorable to a disposition for reading, and admit the leisure it requires, but also renders it probable, that they would be inclined to concur in laying the foundation of a library, which being accomplished by united efforts and general consent must shortly far surpass in extent, variety, and adaptation to general use, any collection that has hitherto been in possession of, or attempted to be formed by, any European in this country. The president of the select committee having been pleased to grant a very commodious room to serve as a repository for the books, in the event of the plan being carried into effect; those gentlemen who are inclined to give their sanction and support to this useful and laudable undertaking, are requested to sign their names, and state the contributions they may be pleased to make in money or in books, in order to lay a foundation for the library, exclusive of their annual subscriptions; the amount of which it is proposed to regulate and determine at the first general meeting of the subscribers, who will be invited to

attend as soon as the list is completed, for the purpose of electing a committee of managers, and decide on such other measures for the benefit of the institution, as may be then recommended to their consideration."

The catalogue before us was published in 1832, and contains the names of about sixteen hundred different works, most of them comprising two, four, five, or more volumes each, amounting probably to a total of about four thousand. Many, if not most, of these were choice, select books; and were conveniently arranged under the following subjects: 1. divinity, law, and philosophy; 2. biography, history, travels, and voyages; 3. arts, sciences, commerce, and politics; 4. classics, antiquities, translations, and philology; 5. poetry, drama, and novels; and 6. miscellanies. Such a library, if well managed and made accessible to the public, in such a place as this, must ever be regarded as of great value. Hence, we were not surprised, on the breaking up of the factory last year, when the library came into the hands of a few individuals, that efforts were made to perpetuate the institution, and to render it available to all the foreign residents in China. We regret exceedingly, as many others do, that those efforts were not successful. But 'the deed is done;' and the valuable collection is scattered, not so widely, however, we trust as to be beyond the hope of at least a partial recovery. In this hope, we are encouraged by what has already been done.

2. It is known to many of our readers that, not long after the death of the late venerable Dr. Morrison, suggestions relative to the formation of an institution, to be called the 'Morrison Education Society,' were circulated in Canton and Macao: between twenty and thirty signatures were immediately obtained, and a subscription of about five thousand dollars collected. With a view to promote the object in question, by increasing the subscription and making inquiries as to the best method of carrying into effect the proposed plan of education, a provisional committee was formed who engaged to act, until a general meeting of the subscribers in China shall be convened to form a board of trustees, "which meeting shall be held on or before the first Wednesday in March, 1836." We have been led to make these remarks by a desire to suggest to the friends of education the expediency of establishing a public library in China. This plan was brought to our notice by the following letter, (which we publish with Mr. C.'s permission,) addressed—

"To the Rev. E. C. Bridgman, corresponding secretary to the provisional committee of the Morrison Education Society.

"My dear sir,—On the dissolution of the British factory, it became necessary to make some disposition of the library belonging to the members of that establishment; and it was proposed to give the whole collection to the Morrison Education Society. The arrangement, however, not meeting with the concurrence of all the proprietors, a division of the books was determined on; and while I regret that so excellent a suggestion should not have been adopted, I am still

happy in performing with my share, what it was my anxious wish should have been done with the whole, by presenting it to that admirable institution. The very injudicious method pursued in the division of the works, has allotted to me volumes of comparatively little value. Such as they are, I present them to the Morrison Education Society; with an ardent hope that I may live to see an institution, which so distinctly marks this enlightened age, attain, under your fostering care, the full realization of its philanthropic intentions, by promoting virtue and happiness through the blessings of education. I am, My dear sir,

"Respectfully and faithfully your's,

"Macao, May 21st, 1835. T. R. Colledge."

3. *The Report of the Anglochinese college* for the year 1834, came to hand too late to be noticed in our last number. The first pages of the Report are very appropriately occupied, in giving a brief view of the life of the founder and late president of the college. By the death of Dr. Morrison, the Anglochinese college has been bereaved of its chief supporter, and an increased weight of responsibility has devolved on its surviving friends and guardians. The patrons of the college are: sir George Thomas Staunton, bart. &c. &c,; colonel Farquhar, late resident of Singapore; the hon. E. Phillips, late governor of Penang; and the hon. J. Erskine, late member of council, Penang. The trustees are: Rev. R. Morrison, D.D. (deceased); Rev. J. Clunie, L.L. D.; Rev. J. Bennett, D.D.; Rev. H. F. Burder, D.D.; Rev. J. Fletcher, D.D.; Rev. J. Morrison, D.D.; W. A. Hankey, esquire; Joshua Wilson, esquire; John Robert Morrison, esquire; and the treasurer and secretaries of the London Missionary Society, for the time being. The officers of the college are; Rev. Dr. Morrison (deceased), president; Rev. John Evans, principal; Yaou, seën säng, Chinese native teacher; Rev. John Evans, treasurer; Master Edwin Evans, librarian: the duties of professor of Chinese, which office is now vacant, are discharged by the principal, pro tempore.

"Since the publication of the last Report," say the writers of the one before us, "another change has taken place in the officers of the college. The Rev. S. Kidd left in the beginning of 1832, for the purpose of returning to England in consequence of ill health. After Mr. Kidd's removal, the Rev. J. Tomlin, then in Siam, was solicited by the president to come to Malacca, to superintend and attend to the duties of the college until, as was supposed, Mr. Kidd's return. During the intervening time of Mr. Kidd's removal and Mr. Tomlin's arrival, the Rev. J. Hughes, Malay missionary, kindly volunteered to discharge the duties in the English department, and to superintend the college. The present principal was appointed to the situation by the trustees in England, November, 1832; he arrived at his station August, 1833, and on the 1st of May, 1834, his predecessor resigned the charge into his hands. Had the Lord been pleased to spare the life of our late president a few months longer, it was his intention to lay before its friends and supporters a retrospect of the

Anglochinese college. This can be done now but in a very limited degree, not only because the present principal has not superintended the college a sufficient length of time to be acquainted with all its movements since the commencement, but because no person could be so well suited for performing such a task, as the late president and founder.

"The Anglochinese college was established in the year of our Lord, 1818, with the praiseworthy design of disseminating religious and scientific knowledge among a dark, bigoted, superstitious, but very intelligent, race of people. The college has met with considerable patronage, and with many warm supporters from the friends of religion and literature in various parts of the world. The late president and founder, was, during his lifetime, its chief supporter. The Lord has been pleased, however, to call him to himself to receive his everlasting reward. The loss which the college has sustained by his removal is irreparable. Its chief pillar has fallen, and unless some of those friends who have the rising glories of the Redeemer's kingdom at heart step forward to its support, the whole fabric must necessarily give way. An appeal is made, therefore, to Christian friends, and to the friends of literature in general, for the support of an institution which has already been, and is still calculated and likely to be, under the divine auspices, the medium of so much beneficial good to more than a third part of the human race. Such an institution established in the midst of idolaters, which has already sent forth from its nursery many accomplished youths and some *Christians*, may be truly called, the *alma mater* of China. It has been the instrument, either directly or indirectly, of converting every Chinese who has embraced the Christian faith. Not all the students sent from colleges in England are men of genuine piety,—thus it is with respect to the students of the Anglochinese college; at the same time it is pleasing to add that those youths who have not been baptized are good moral characters, and are filling respectable situations; they have renounced idolatry, and laugh at the stupidity and reprove the idolatrous superstitions of their dark, bigoted countrymen. May He, who has all the wealth of the world at his command, hear our prayers and answer them, by raising up for us a few such supporters, as the *Anglochinese college founder.*

"The total number of students that have finished their education and gone forth into public life since the commencement of the college is 40. We are often receiving reports of their conduct and it is pleasing to say, that, without exception, it is truly consistent. Part of them are sincere Christians and are active in distributing tracts, and making known the everlasting gospel to the idolatrous Chinese around them, and all are useful and respectable members of society. The education they have received has raised them far above their countrymen. It is very gratifying to know that several are employed as clerks in merchants' offices, and are said to discharge their duties in the most satisfactory manner. They are exceedingly clever in transacting commercial affairs, and are generally preferred by the merchants to fill

such situations. In consequence of most of the senior students having left the college at the termination of the last Chinese year, and those remaining being for the most part very young, and lately entered, little can be said in praise of their attainments; it is however satisfactory to say that they have made some progress.

"The number of students at present receiving instruction is thirty-five, and the routine of education pursued is in accordance with the statement given in 'the general plan of the institution.' In addition to this, the boys of the senior class daily translate portions of Chinese into English and *vice versa*, and in order to assist them in English composition, they are requested to write a theme on a subject given by the principal. The two junior classes are employed in acquiring a knowledge of Chinese and English, and arithmetic, and in furnishing their minds with divine truth. Part of them also write in English, translate Chinese into English, learn geography, English grammar, &c. Thus the principal is happy to state that something has been done during the present year; and that a considerable portion of that information, which of all others is most important, has evidently been acquired, and the young mind has been stored with those essential truths which are able to make man wise unto salvation through faith in Jesus Christ. Divine service continues to be performed morning and evening in the college hall, at which all the students with their teachers, and the whole of the Chinese printers and type-cutters attend. A Chinese Bible class composed of the teachers, senior students, printers, type-cutters, &c., meets every Tuesday and Friday evening in the college hall, from seven till eight o'clock. Preaching is performed in Chinese on the Sabbath day to a very encouraging congregation: there are also other services on the Sabbath of a religious nature, all calculated to acquaint the mind with divine truth and to impress it upon the conscience.

"It is truly pleasing to see several Chinese youths, all understanding the English language, uniting with an English congregation in divine worship in the house of God, and bowing the knee with them in prayer to the same exalted Jehovah. Among the students there are at present some very promising characters in the college, and a few candidates for baptism. Thus does the Lord continue to water the instruction given here with the dewy influence of the Spirit of his grace, and to stir up these youths while perusing his word, to inquire, 'what must I do to be saved?' Although the prime object of the Anglochinese college, in diffusing knowledge, and in making known the Savior of mankind to so great a part of the heathen world, is the instruction of the Chinese youth, it is not confined to this: there have issued from its press, since its commencement, nearly 500,000 volumes of tracts, several thousand copies of the gospels, and a few hundred copies of the Scriptures complete. These have all been distributed by different missionaries among the Chinese in various parts. Thus may we hope to meet at the right hand of the throne in glory, not only a part of those who have been, still are, and yet may be, under our own immediate care and personal instruction,

but thousands more, who, by the instruction, advice, and direction, of the silent monitors sent forth from the Anglochinese college, have learned their dangerous state as sinners, forsaken their idolatrous and evil ways, and have fled to the sinner's Friend for refuge and salvation.

"The number of Chinese who have received Christian baptism is fifteen. The greater part of these attribute the instruction they have received at the college, or from some of those who have left the college, as the means of their conversion. What greater encouragement can the supporters of this establishment expect, or have? This is sufficient to cheer their hearts, and to induce them to praise God and be thankful that their endeavors in the best and noblest causes, have been so abundantly blessed, and to stimulate them to double their efforts in aiding this glorious work.

"Our grateful thanks are presented to those kind friends who have hitherto honored the college with their patronage, and assisted its benevolent designs with their support. At the same time the principal feels necessitated, as well to remind them of his continued dependence on their liberality, (and the public in general,) as to appeal for renewed efforts, that he may not only be enabled to carry on those measures already adopted for the prosperity of the institution, but may greatly extend its usefulness, so that the original design entertained in the comprehensive mind of its benevolent founder may be fully answered, by its ultimately proving a general beneficial good, (spiritual and temporal,) to 350,000,000.

4. "The Journal of the Royal Asiatic Society of Great Britain and Ireland, No. 1, for July, 1834," has reached China. The fifth article of the number is a 'description of ancient Chinese vases, with inscriptions illustrative of the history of the Shang dynasty of Chinese sovereigns, who reigned from about 1766 to 1123, B. C.; translated from the original work, entitled *Pŏkootoo*, by P. P. Thoms, esquire.' The seventh article is 'a transcript in Roman characters, with a translation, of a manifest in the Chinese language, issued by the Triad Society: by the Rev. Robert Morrison, D.D., F.R.S., M.R.A.S., &c.' The number contains also an account of the anniversary meeting of the Society, held May 10th, 1834; from which it appears that "it had been resolved to request lord Napier to establish an auxiliary society at Canton."

ART. VI. *Walks about Canton: rats; an outcast child; the consoo house; the factory street; archery among the Chinese.* Extracts from a private journal.

RATS. *Non est disputandum de gustibus*, surely, thought I, when I saw an old man approaching me in the street, carrying on his shoulder

a long pole or bamboo, loaded with rats. My attention was attracted to him by the tinkling of little bells which he carried in his hand fastened to the end of a short stick. There were about a dozen and a half of rats; and they were suspended from the pole, which lay across the man's shoulder, precisely in the manner described in some of the old European books about China. On inquiry, I ascertained that the rats were not for sale; this indeed I suspected when the man passed me, for the animals seemed to be nothing more than rats' skins stuffed: and such I understand is the fact. The man was by profession, if I was correctly informed, a rat-catcher; and those which he carried on his shoulder were designed to point out his occupation. He and his fraternity have various methods of destroying rats, but the most usual is by poison. *May 2d*, 1835.

An outcast. Parts of the suburbs of Canton, which border on the open country, are inhabited by rich and opulent people. The houses are spacious, and the streets unfrequented by travelers. A little before sunset this evening, I passed through one of those streets into the fields beyond the suburbs. After a short excursion among the gardens, fish-ponds, &c., I turned my course homeward; and on entering another of the private streets saw a poor child which had been cast out among the rubbish from the houses of the rich men. The child was in a basket, and appeared to be about a year old. The way which I had to pass in order to reach the entrance of the street was very narrow; and the basket was so placed that I was obliged to step over it. Several individuals (natives,) had passed along just before me, and seemed not to notice the child at all; nor did I, till I was actually raising my foot over the basket. The sight shocked me, and gave me a sensation which I shall never forget. I gazed a moment at the pitiful object, and the Chinese gazed at me. They seemed as much amazed at the fan kwei, as he was at the dead child. The basket was quite small, and the child was doubled up and crowded into it, so that its head hung out over one side: the face was fair and only a little swollen. *Saturday, June 6th.*

Consoo house. At the north end of old China street stands the public hall of the hong merchants, called by foreigners the consoo house. It is not built on a very large or magnificent scale; it seems, however, to be sufficiently spacious for all the public business of the cohong, and also, occasionally, to serve for other purposes. It was here that the murderers of the crew of the Navigateur were tried in 1827. Here too on every eighth day may be seen a group of children and others assembled to be vaccinated. Such an assembly I witnessed this morning. *Tuesday, June 9th.*

The factory street, called by the Chinese *Sheih-san keae*, the 'thirteen (factory) street,' is so named because it is adjacent to the 'thirteen foreign factories,' several of them opening into the street on the north. It runs parallel to the front of the factories, but extends far beyond them towards the east and west, forming one of the longest streets, and exhibiting perhaps the greatest variety of shops, that can be found in the suburbs of the city. The traveler about

Canton will often find it convenient to take his departure from this street, and should therefore know its bearings in the outset.

Archery is inculcated by the classics, and required by the laws, of China, as a fit exercise for the soldiers of the celestial empire. This afternoon, walking across the 'sandy ground' near the river and just beyond the western suburbs of the city, I met a small party engaged in this exercise. They were Tartars, a corporal and four privates, who had been sent out on a drill. The target was placed about eigth rods distant from them. They had each a bow, strong and neatly made; and their arrows were pointed with iron and feathered. The corporal was an adept; every time he drew the bow, an arrow hit the mark. The bow and arrow were grasped at the same instant *à la Tartare;* the heels were placed together, with the body erect, the mark being off on the left. As the archer drew the bowstring, he poised on his right foot, throwing the left a little out, bending the body forward, swelling the breast, and extending the arms at full length, with the hands elevated to the level of his eyes, gave a savage grin, and let fly the arrow. *June 16th.*

ART. VII. *Journal of occurrences. Volcano; Siamese tribute-bearers; opium brokers; military reviews; public executions; disturbance in Shanse; Szechuen; local officers; Peking; sodomy.*

June 1st. Volcano. THERE is a report abroad here that a shower of sand, or ashes, or both, and accompanied with darkness, has fallen in Fuhkeën. We give publicity to this report, only to elicit further information, should any come to the notice of our readers.

Thursday, 4th. The Siamese tribute-bearers reached Canton to-day, after an absence of six or eight months. They have been graciously permitted to ascend to the capital, to see the dragon's face, and to receive imperial favors with permission to return to their own country. The tribute-bearers have taken up their residence at their 'palace' in the western suburbs of the provincial city. Those who wish for an exhibition of eastern splendor, may find their curiosity gratified by a visit to the palace: the buildings are in truth a good emblem of the occupants; they are little less than a pile of ruins, and in Europe would scarcely be deemed fit to give shelter to a herd of cattle.

Saturday, 6th. Opium brokers. The property of the two opium brokers who were seized last year, (see Repository, vol. 3, p. 142,) was confiscated, and is soon to be sold. An order was issued on the 29th ult. by the cheheën of Nanhae, calling on all those who had sold goods or anything else to them, to appear with proper vouchers, prove property, and take it away. Those articles which are not reclaimed speedily are to be sold.

Monday, 8th. Military reviews. Governor Loo returned yesterday morning from his tour in Kwangse, and made his entrance without any parade at a very late hour of the day. It is affirmed that his excellency has been enriched more than $50,000 by the excursion. But he has also been the dispenser of favors. At several places he caused cash, pigs, cloth, purses, short swords, &c., to be bestowed on the veteran troops; buttons were also granted to several of the military officers. Governor Loo is now 64 years of age; his health seems to have considerably improved by his excursion into the country.

Tuesday, 16th. Public executions. At a very early hour this morning, two malefactors were conducted by a guard of soldiers to the hall of judgment, and from thence to the place of execution just without the southern gate of the city, where they expired surrounded by crowds of spectators. The first was Chin Sanjun, a native of Shuntih, the district south of Canton; he was condemned for robbery, and decapitated The second malefactor was a female, named Leaou Tsängshe; she was condemned for poisoning her husband's parents, and suffered death by the slow and painful process of being cut into pieces.

Saturday, 20th. The disturbances in Shanse, by latest accounts from Peking, were not settled. It was reported in Canton early this month, that in the district of Chaouching more than 3000 banditti surrounded the chief city of the district by night, and commenced an assault in which the chehe͡en was killed. The fooyuen of the province immediately dispatched soldiers to that place, and also a flying messenger to inform the great emperor; who instantly sent general Saeshangah, with 2000 troops to put down the insurreetion. The Peking gazettes for the 5th and 10th ultimo, or rather extraets from them, state that the eheheën and all his family, thirteen in number, were killed, and his house and the prison of the district were burned. The magistrate was Chang Yenleäng; the leader of the maleontents was Tsaou Shun, a man who 'practiced and promulgated wicked doctrines.' The magistrate hearing of Tsaou's eonduct took measures to arrest him, when Tsaou with his numerous aceomplices arose and made their assault. Orders are issued to seize the rebels; and the heart of the leader is to be torn out and offered in sacrifice to appease the manes of the chehe͡en. The extracts before us are very unsatisfactory; they do not specify the time of the insurrection, the false doctrines which were being promulgated, the number of insurgents, or the measures taken to suppress them; we eonclude therefore that 'the affair' is unsettled. A temple is to be erected to the unfortunate but faithful Chang Yenlcäng, and he and his family are to be rewarded for his zeal in endeavoring to exterminate those who dared to disseminate heterodoxy.

Szechuen. It is rumored that the disturbanees in that quarter have been quelled. Some notices of disturbances in the western part of the Chinese empire have reached us by the way of Bengal, but they are unsatisfaetory. In one of the notices, it is stated that the leader of the insurgents is a son of the famous ehief Changkihurh, or more properly, Jehanguir.

Saturday, 27th. Local officers. Governor Loo, having recently sent his triennial report to the capital giving an aecount of himself and those under his authority, has reeeived the imperial will, giving him permission to continue in his present station at Canton. His excelleney is taking great care to watch and guard against 'erafty barbarians,' is sending out his spies to detect 'traitors' and to give notice of the approaehing 'enemy,' and is pushing on with all convenient dispatch the repair of forts at the Tiger's Month.

Peking. The Chinese officers, Wang and Le, who eonducted the Siamese tribute-bearers to Canton, and others, report that the eapital was quiet when they left; and that the literary examinations had gone off with great eclat. The chief among the *tsin sze,* or 'promoted scholars,' was Chang Kingsing, a native of Chěkeäng. The whole number of promoted scholars was 264, only ten of whom belong to the provinee of Canton.

Sodomy. Nine full pages of the gazette for the 26th day of the 2d moon, of the current year, (March 24th,) are filled with details of a case of this abominable practice, which exists to a great extent, in almost every part of the empire, and particularly in the very officers of the 'shepherds of the people,' the guardians of the morals of the celestial empire. The sodomite was Woopaou, formerly a soldier under the Tartar banners, aged thirty-four years. "In the 12th year, 8th moon, 27th day of the reign of Taonkwang (Sept 21st. 1832), Woopaou being at the house of Mrs. Wei, where her grandson was at play, seized the lad, and binding him in a blanket (to prevent him from alarming the neighbors,) committed violence on his person. The boy then ran home erying, followed by the villain; but his grandmother was enraged, and would listen to no overtures; Woopaou therefore fled, and after an absence of two years returned, was seized, and delivered over to the criminal court for trial." What is to be the result, we have not yet learned. The boy was only eleven years old.